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ARAB TIMES

New New...New...New

The 10th Edition of the Commercial Directory The Arabian Year Book 1989

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Student activists work on what they call the "Goddess of Democracy" at a campus near Tiananmen Square. The statue is modelled after USA's Statue of Liberty. (Reuter wirephoto)

NEWSWATCH

London repays
LONDON, May 30, (Reuters): The City of London has repaid a debt of gratitude to an English village which came to the aid of the capital's plague victims more than 350 years ago.

In 1625 the people of Shewell, in central England, sent £15 and seven shillings to help Londoners "impoverished by the plague."

Now the city has given £1,000 (\$1,500 to Shewell as a contribution to a £53,000 (\$83,000) fund to preserve the bells at the village church.

Minister dies
NEW DELHI, May 30, (KUNA): India's Communication Minister Bir Bahadur Singh died today in a Paris hospital after a heart attack. He was 54.

Singh had gone to Paris a week ago to attend the International Communication Union conference at Nice.

Boy zapped
LEESBURG, Florida, May 30, (UPI): Nine-year-old Brian Grace zapped in the back of the neck by a lightning bolt that penetrated the roof of his home was resting comfortably today in a hospital intensive care unit.

PLO-US talks
TUNIS, May 30, (AP): The direct dialogue between the United States and the PLO will resume "in the next few days," the official PLO news agency Wafa reported today.

Water rationed
AMMAN, May 30, (Reuters): Parched Jordan began rationing water in the capital of Amman today after the driest April in 60 years threatened vital harvests.

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں

○ پاکستان میں سرکاری طور پر کانگریس کا انعقاد

○ پاکستان میں بیجنگ کی سرکاری سرگرمیوں کا آغاز

○ برطانیہ میں پاکستانی سفارت کی جانب سے کانگریس کا انعقاد

○ کھانا پکانے والی اور کھانے کی چیزیں

○ ریل کے حادثے میں ہلاکتوں کا اعلان

Wage battle

Filipino mutineers jailed: 48 kids die

MANILA, May 30, (Agencies): A military tribunal today sentenced 14 officers and soldiers to six to 12 years imprisonment for attempting to take over the Philippine Air Force headquarters in a failed bid to oust President Corason Aquino two years ago.

Supporters of deposed dictator Ferdinand Marcos mounted the coup attempt on Jan 27, 1987, capturing the Channel 7 television station in suburban Quezon city and attacking the Villamor air base adjacent to the Manila international airport.

The uprising, which left one person dead and 60 others injured, collapsed after 56 hours.

The six-member tribunal headed by Brig Gen Buenaventura Tavo sentenced Air Force Col Bertuldo de la Cruz, Lt Rodolfo Calzado, and nine soldiers to 12 years in jail after finding them guilty of mutiny.

Col Romeo Javelosa, Maj Francisco Ovillo and Lt Jose Caliboso, who is at large and was tried in absentia, were sentenced to six years in jail.

All the 14 were involved in the attempt to seize the air base.

The coup leader, Col Oscar Canlas, and 39 other officers and enlisted men were sentenced late last year to serve prison terms of up to 12 years at hard labour for taking over the television network.

A Congressional conference committee met today to work out a compromise on a new wage law as the country's largest labour union threatened another general strike this week for pay raises.

Avelino Valerio, vice-president of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, said his federation would join militant workers who have called a general strike for Thursday if their demand for a 30-peso (\$1.42) a day increase in the minimum wage is not met.

The largely moderate Union Congress claims a membership of 1.3 million workers, including labourers in key industries such as transportation and telecommunications, with some at six US-run military facilities in the country.

The congressional committee had offered a 25-peso (\$1.19) pay increase for workers not receiving a 100-peso (\$4.76) daily wage, Valerio quoted Sen. Ernesto Herrera, the congressional committee's chairman, as saying.

At least 48 children died this month in makeshift evacuation centres after some 35,000 villagers fled their mountain homes to escape fighting between government troops and communist rebels on Negros island, officials said today.

Dr Carlos de la Rama, health officer of Negros occidental province, said most died of diarrhoea and pneumonia. Another 4,500 children were suffering from measles, stomach diseases and malnutrition.

Local officials said the villagers began fleeing their homes last month after the military stepped up operations against the rebel New People's Army on Negros.

■ Suspected communist gunmen ambushed a military jeep near the Manila airport yesterday, killing two soldiers and seriously wounding another, police said.

■ Ten prisoners facing charges including murder, rape and auto theft killed two guards in a provincial jail early today, looted the prison's armoury and escaped, police reported.

Whims rule as pay structure erratic

Increments virtually non-existent

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

PRIVATE sector employees in Kuwait are victims of an erratic wage structure, according to a limited survey conducted by the Arab Times. Cheap labour with supply far exceeding demand has pushed down salaries since 1983.

Kuwait's Private Sector Labour Law of 1964, defines wages as "basic remuneration payable to a labourer during his work, plus any periodical allowance, increment, commission, bonus or gratuity." Most private sector companies abide by a part of the definition and pay only for work done by an employee.

The practice of periodical allowances and increments is virtually non-existent; some employers give increments but pay hikes vary from one person to another, doing the same job in the same company, depending on the whims of an employer and an employee's power of friendly persuasion, it was found.

Only some employees manage to get a periodical raise. There are cases of employees who got only a couple of "increments" during 10 years of service; in some cases, they got no pay hike after six years service. Such an attitude discourages employees from working with one

An Arab Times special report



Khomeini spoon fed

NICOSIA, May 30, (Reuters): Doctors treating Ayatollah Khomeini said today Iran's spiritual leader was making good recovery from last week's surgery to stem bleeding in his stomach.

"The imam's general condition and progress of recovery are completely satisfactory and, thank God, there are no worrying complications," said a medical bulletin read on Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia.

Iranian Television yesterday showed Khomeini, 89, being spoon fed (above).

Khomeini, who led the 1979 Islamic revolution which toppled monarchy in Iran, has no designated successor. (Reuter wirephoto)

NATO strikes a deal on SNF

BRUSSELS, May 30, (Agencies): Western allies wound up the two-day NATO summit on an upbeat note today after a late-night bargaining session worked out a compromise on a contentious dispute over short-range nuclear missiles.

The United States and Britain had opposed a West German call for immediate negotiations with the Soviet Union on eliminating the weapons. The compromise, reached well after midnight following eight hours of talks, allowed

Military budget

MOSCOW, May 30, (UPI): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev revealed the nation's military budget today for the first time, listing it as \$118 billion in a speech before the nation's new Parliament.

Gorbachev said that in 1989 the overall military spending was 77.3 billion roubles, or \$118 billion.

See Gorbachev promises Page 4

owed both sides to claim a partial victory.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher praised the agreement and the Americans for paying attention to the Germans' "special concerns." Bush arrived in Bonn today to meet with Kohl.

Under the agreement, negotiations for only a partial reduction in the short-range nuclear arsenals would be permitted, and it would be contingent on implementation of cuts in Warsaw Pact conventional forces. In addition, no decision on modernising existing short-range nuclear forces would come until 1992.

The compromise came a day after US President George Bush proposed, and the allies endorsed, a plan for cutting US and Soviet combat troops in Europe to 275,000 on each side and reducing stockpiles of conventional weapons.

Bush told a post-summit news conference that "the unity in the alliance will be persuasive to" Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. "I have reason to believe that he knows we've been serious," Bush said.

The cuts being proposed by NATO could save Gorbachev a lot of money "in the long run," Bush said, adding that he would

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

DAY BY DAY

LAST December, the government increased the interest rates by 50 per cent from six to nine per cent.

I have no objection to this hike as the government may have its own reasons.

However, subsequent to this hike, the government vacated many apartments it had rented from citizens or reduced their rents by 30 per cent.

Translated, this means that indebted persons are paying higher interest rates of more than 50 per cent coupled with a drop in income of 30 per cent — a total of an 80 per cent loss. Thus, this 80 per cent goes into the coffers of the government — here again I have no objection.

But, on behalf of the indebted, we say that the government in the final analysis will have to pay the price to the banks and creditors — particularly the financial establishments.

Now, we have the right to ask: What comes next? When rents went up, the government refused to increase the rents it pays for the apartments it rented from citizens. It simply stuck to the contractual terms.

In a reverse scenario, the government is unilaterally compelling people to reduce the rents of the buildings rented to the government.

These buildings are mortgaged to the banks where the government has raised its interest rates.

Zahed Matar

Bahrain opens TT baby centre

By Yakub Razzaque
Arab Times staff

BAHRAIN, May 30: Bahrain's first test-tube baby unit officially opened at the Bahrain Defence Forces hospital today.

Facilities at the in vitro fertilisation (IVF) unit consists of an outpatient department, ultra sound room, operating theatre, IVF laboratory and a day-case unit with four beds.

Ceasefire broken after Aoun scare

Lebanon must help itself

BEIRUT, May 30, (Agencies): Lebanese gunmen staged the first major violation of a two-week old ceasefire today after disclosure of an alleged plot to kill a top Lebanese leader, believed to be Christian Army chief Michel Aoun.

Forces loyal to Aoun traded artillery and tank fire with Syrian forces and Muslim Druze militiamen across the mountain ridge of Souk Al Gharb south-east of Beirut, security sources said.

They said shells hit residential areas in the first major breach of a ceasefire declared on May 11 after Arab League mediation.

Witnesses said black smoke billowed over Souk Al Gharb. Shells fell at the rate of two a minute near Aoun's already battered presidential palace, Christian Radio said.

Cypriot police announced yesterday they had arrested six men with Lebanese passports for allegedly plotting to kill "a prominent Lebanese" by shooting down his helicopter with a surface-to-air missile over Larnaca airport.

One of the suspects disclosed in court today that he and five others planned to shoot down a helicopter carrying Aoun.

The six were ordered held for eight days of conspiracy to commit murder and illegal possession of arms and explosives pending completion of police investigations.

Three of the suspects admitted in voluntary statements that with the means at their disposal they planned to assassinate an Arab personality," police investigator Nicos Kazafaniotis told the court.

Kazafaniotis did not mention any name, but one of the six, Idris Jamal Jaber, turned toward the packed journalists' gallery and spelled out the name "Aoun" with his lips. He did not say it aloud.

Leftist sources in Beirut said the six detainees were members of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, a Syrian-backed leftist faction. No group has yet announced involvement in the plan.

In Kuwait, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed said today the Arab League six-man committee on Lebanon has submitted all of its feedback and results concerning the crisis to the recently-concluded Casablanca summit.

He noted that the report he submitted to the Arab summit was comprehensive, covering all the phases which the six-man committee has gone through during its six-month mission.

Sheikh Sabah said the report also outlined the obstacles which confronted the Arab League's delegation.

King Hassan of Morocco said today that the solution to the Lebanese crisis is in the hands of the Lebanese and that a committee of Arab chiefs of state was created during last week's emergency summit in Casablanca only to help.

Hassan, speaking at a news conference about the summit said the Lebanese must be patient. He said many parties both inside and outside Lebanon did not want the conflict to end.

The summit appointed a three-member committee made up of Hassan as chairman, and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and President Chadli Benjedid of Algeria.

"We have not yet found a solution," Hassan said. "When we have found it, we will ask for a firm engagement."

■ A total of 229 Lebanese Muslims wounded in artillery battles are being treated in Iranian hospitals, the Iranian news agency IRNA said today.

Meeting postponed

14 activists held, Chinese protest

BEIJING, May 30, (AP): About 1,000 students and workers rallied outside police headquarters today to protest against the reported arrests of leaders of a new independent labour union aligned with the student pro-democracy movement.

Also today, a Chinese source said an important Communist Party central committee meeting scheduled for early this week was postponed because conservatives lacked enough support for the purge of moderate leaders.

Reform-minded Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang reportedly was stripped of power last week by conservative Premier Li Peng, acting on behalf of senior leader Deng Xiaoping. No official announcement has been made.

Students occupying Tiananmen Square to press their demands for a freer society and less corruption today unveiled a 10-metre (33-foot) statue named "Goddess of Democracy" while thousands of onlookers cheered.

Beijing authorities immediately called for removal of the statue, a replica of the Statue of Liberty in New York harbour, saying the students' action violated a 1981 public order.

This is China, not the United States," the nation-wide television news quoted an unidentified intellectual as saying.

"Even in the United States, putting up a statue in front of the Congress building as one places is not permitted."

The broadcast also quoted the intellectual as saying the statue should be removed by Thursday, when Children's Day activities are scheduled for Tiananmen.

In another development, authorities have arrested 14 activists.

Three union officials and 11 leaders of a motorcycle gang that roared through the city in support of the students were reportedly arrested.

About 1,000 students and workers gathered to protest outside police headquarters, near the square. One banner said: "Do not secretly arrest people. Let the people know."

Police invited Western reporters inside the office, where a man who identified himself as chief of Beijing public security told a US television crew that no students had been arrested. He refused to comment on whether workers were detained.

The official told the journalists they had violated martial law, imposed May 20, and said the television crew was not allowed to talk to any Chinese people in the central Beijing area under the decree.

The independent trade union was formed May 19 in defiance of a government ban on all but the official All China Federation of Trade Unions.

Communist Party hardliners, who reportedly have wrested control of the leadership in a power struggle sparked by the student protests, have taken the stance that students are well-intentioned but non-students who are misleading them would be punished.

Already, workers who have joined demonstrations or supported the movement are being fined or having their pay docked. Others are being threatened with losing their jobs.



Students in Arab girl

Face problems together: Mubarak

CAIRO, May 30, (Agencies): President Hosni Mubarak today urged all Egyptians, including political opponents, to close ranks to try to overcome the country's economic problems.

In a speech to the People's Assembly (Parliament) on the outcome of last week's Arab summit in Morocco, Mubarak said Egypt now had better chances of winning investment from other Arab countries.

The emergency summit in Casablanca readmitted Egypt to the Arab League, 10 years after it was suspended for making peace with Israel.

"The new Arab solidarity will promote further economic co-operation which will lead to home development," Mubarak said.

But he said unity at home was essential to cope with serious economic problems.

"I call on all the Egyptian people, whatever their differences or views, to unite in tackling our problems," Mubarak said.

Mubarak said many regional leaders have agreed in discussions as recent as the Arab summit meeting that finding peace depends on the Arabs' working together.

ARAB TIMES

Grand Bingo

KD 250 must be won

COUPON for Game No. 70 appears on Page 15. Last date for sending entries is June 10 and numbers will be Drawn from June 12.

Gorbachev promises to cut defence spending

MOSCOW, May 30, (AP): President Mikhail Gorbachev acknowledged today the Soviet Union spends 77.3 billion roubles (\$118 billion) a year on defence — nearly four times the last official figure given.

In announcing the defence total to the Congress of People's Deputies, Gorbachev pledged military spending would be reduced by 10 billion roubles (\$15.3 billion) by the end of 1991.

The traditionally secretive Soviet government has long concealed its true military expenditures, complicating East-West negotiations on mutual arms reductions. In October, the official budget for 1989 allocated 20.2 billion roubles (\$32 billion) for the military, the same figure used the previous year.

Gorbachev did not say exactly what the 77.3 billion roubles included. Economist Leonid Abalkin, speaking to reporters after Gorbachev's speech, said the figure represented about 9 per cent of the Soviet gross national product, the total value of its annual output of goods and services.

Asked why previous defence spending figures were so much lower, Abalkin said they represented only "what we could call the budget of the Ministry of Defence."

In his one hour and 35-minute address to the new Congress on the state of foreign and domestic affairs, Gorbachev also:

■ Proposed creation of a special legislative commission to review the decades-old system of privileges for the Soviet elite.

■ Urged the deputies to question government ministers on why they are dragging their feet on reforms. He acknowledged deputies' complaints that government ministries "are restructuring very slowly, if at all" and said, "we have to find out what is wrong."

■ Claimed all industrial production "must be reoriented to produce what the people need," a tacit acknowledgement that the primary issue cited by members of the elected parliament is improving the country's standard of living.

■ Pledged that the Communist Party would be open to dialogue with any social group or organisation favouring reform.

The President told the deputies that their members elected to the smaller, full-time legislature, the Supreme Soviet, should "hold the levers of power in their hands" and exercise their authority to oversee governmental operations.

He suggested that the 542 lawmakers create commissions to examine the appointment of government ministers and ambassadors, review all treaties

Yeltsin leads march after appointment as legislator

MOSCOW, May 30, (AP): A bus driver honked his horn, Muscovites cheered and thousands rallied yesterday to join communist firebrand Boris Yeltsin celebrate the latest victory in his political comeback — his surprise appointment to a new legislature.

Well-wishers besieged the 58-year-old former Moscow party chief after he left the Kremlin, where the Congress of People's Deputies, the nation's new Parliament, gave him a seat in the Supreme Soviet.

Yeltsin was denied a seat in the Supreme Soviet, a full-time legislature that will replace the current rubber-stamp body, during Saturday elections. But one candidate elected Saturday offered yesterday to resign to clear a space for Yeltsin, and the Congress overwhelmingly agreed to the unusual move.

Yeltsin, with a wide smile, told



Yeltsin clench his fist victoriously in central Moscow yesterday after finally securing a seat in the Supreme Soviet. (Reuters wirephoto)

reporters as he left the session his appointment showed the Congress was becoming "gradually more democratic."

"Hooray, hooray," hundreds of Soviets shouted as they joined the towering, silver-haired man

from Sverdlovsk in a spontaneous victory march through central Moscow. Most had learned of his victory from the live television and radio broadcasts of the Congress session.

"Congratulations," yelled

others who greeted Yeltsin as he walked from the Kremlin and then along Gorky Street, one of Moscow's busiest thoroughfares. "All the people are with you," one man yelled to Yeltsin, who towered above the crowd.

proposed specific troop and weapons reductions, which could set the stage for detailed negotiations at talks on reducing conventional arms.

Discussing the budget, Gorbachev told the Congress, "there is a proposal to reduce military expenditures already in 1990-1991 by 10 billion roubles, that is 14 per cent.

Parley to review human rights

Paris meeting opens

PARIS, May 30, (AP): An East-West conference of 35 nations opened today to review human rights progress, lodge complaints and single out several nations for alleged violations.

President Francois Mitterrand as scheduled to speak to the conference in the Sorbonne University after returning from the NATO summit in Brussels.

Romania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and East Germany were expected to be singled out for human rights abuses.

About 20 foreign ministers including Eduard Shevardnadze of the Soviet Union are heading their delegations to the month-long conference on the human dimension.

The Paris meeting is the first of three dealing with human rights guarantees ordered by the Vienna, review meeting of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, which ended in January. Similar human rights follow-up meetings are scheduled for Copenhagen in 1990 and Moscow in 1991.

The conference is made up of every European nation, except Albania, and includes the United States and Canada. All signed the 1975 Helsinki final act.

Unlike previous Helsinki human rights follow-up meetings, the Paris conference is aimed at examining how well human rights plans have been implemented.

It also will be a testing ground for a mechanism worked out in Vienna to call attention to human rights abuses within the 35 countries.

"In this century, far more people... have been killed by violations of human rights than in all the wars of this century," Morris Abram, who heads the US delegation, said yesterday.

Abram said that Romania was in "the most flagrant violation of any of the states signatory to... the promises of Helsinki."

It was unclear how Romania would respond to open criticism.

The head of the Bulgarian delegation, Lyuben Kulishov, told Bulgarian radio on Sunday that his country would reject criticism of its crackdown on ethnic Turks.

East German Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer, deflecting criticism of human rights abuses in the East bloc, hit out at social conditions in the West at the start of the conference.

NATO strikes a deal on SNF

(Continued from Page 1)

be willing to meet the Soviet leaders "if something constructive" could emerge from such a meeting.

Col. Gen. Nikolai Chervov, a member of the Soviet general staff, was quoted as telling the official news agency Tass that Bush's proposals to cut US forces in Western Europe and reach swift East-West agreement on even deeper cuts by 1993 "need to be carefully analyzed."

In their final communiqué today, the leaders said they would make "every effort" to bring East-West negotiations in Vienna on reducing conventional arms "to an early and satisfactory conclusion."

The United States, it said, would like this to be achieved within six to 12 months.

They also said reductions in short-range nuclear weapons "will not be carried out until the results of these (conventional) negotiations have been implemented. Reductions of Warsaw Pact SNF systems should be carried out before that date."

A British source said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher "was quite happy with the text as it stood" and had abandoned her effort to have the final agreement include "reservation" explicitly forbidding a negotiated elimination of all tactical nuclear weapons.

BRUSSELS, Belgium, May 30, (AP): Following is the text of sections 48 through 52 of NATO's comprehensive strategy document relating to modernisation of Lance missiles and short-range nuclear forces negotiations.

48. The Alliance reaffirms its position that for the foreseeable future there is no alternative to the Alliance's strategy for the prevention of war, which is a strategy of deterrence based upon an appropriate mix of adequate and effective nuclear and conventional forces which will continue to be kept up to date where necessary. Where nuclear forces are concerned, land, sea, and air-based systems, including ground-based missiles, in the present circumstances and as far as can be foreseen will be needed in Europe.

49. In view of the huge superiority of the Warsaw Pact in terms of short-range nuclear missiles, the Alliance calls upon the Soviet Union to reduce unilaterally its short-range missile systems to the current levels within the integrated military structure.

50. The Alliance reaffirms that at the negotiations on conventional stability it pursues the objectives of: ■ The establishment of a secure and stable balance of conventional forces at lower levels; ■ The elimination of disparities prejudicial to stability and security, and

■ The elimination as a matter of high priority of the capability for launching surprise attack and for initiating large-scale offensive action.

51. In keeping with its arms control objectives formulated in Reykjavik in 1987 and reaffirmed in Brussels in 1988, the Alliance states that one of its highest priorities in negotiations with the East is reaching an agreement on conventional force reductions which would achieve the objectives above.

In this spirit, the allies will make every effort, as evidenced by the outcome of the May 1989 summit, to bring negotiations to an early and satisfactory conclusion. The United States has expressed the hope that this could be achieved within six to 12 months. Once implementation of such an agreement is under way, the United States, in consultation with the allies concerned, is prepared to enter into negotiations to achieve a partial reduction of American and Soviet land-based nuclear missiles forces of shorter range to equal and verifiable levels.

52. As regards the sub-strategic nuclear forces of the members of the integrated military structure, their level and characteristics must be such that they can perform their deterrent role in a credible way across the required spectrum of ranges, taking into account the threat — both conventional and nuclear — with which the Alliance is faced. The question of Lance will be dealt with in 1992 in the light of overall security developments.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater quoted Bush as assuring his fellow leaders today that "American forces will remain on this side of the Atlantic as long as they are needed or wanted to guarantee Europe's security."

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze welcomed Bush's proposals for arms reductions as serious proposals and called them a step in the right direction.

The Warsaw Pact offered today to slash by about half its

troops and conventional arms stationed in Central Europe.

East Germany's chief delegate to the Vienna talks on conventional forces in Europe suggested new ceilings close to those already tabled by the West.

100 hurt in protest

Murder in Lee's death ruled out

SEOUL, May 30, (Agencies): South Korean prosecutors today finally ruled out murder in the death of a student activist while more than 100 police and anti-government protesters were reported hurt in clashes overnight in the southwestern city of Kwangju.

Thousands of citizens and students fought sporadic battles with riot police long into the night, demanding the overthrow of President Roh Tae-Woo and accusing security officials of torturing to death student Lee Chul-Kyu.

Demonstrators threw broken paving slabs and brandished wooden clubs and steel pipes, witnesses said. Police replied with stones, chasing and attacking radicals with their protective shields. There were no reports of the usual exchanges of firebombs and barrages of anti-riot teargas.

Yonhap news agency said more than 100 people were injured and several protesters arrested.

It was the latest in almost daily protests in Kwangju since Lee's body was found in a reservoir on May 10. He was being sought by police on charges of pro-communist activities.

Tension ran especially high in the city because his death coincided with a commemorative period set by citizens to mark the ninth anniversary of an armed popular uprising there. About 200 people died in the revolt, by official count.

State prosecutors today reaffirmed the findings of an official post mortem indicating Lee's drowning was accidental.

Announcing a final government analysis at a news conference, Kwangju chief prosecutor Ryu Soon-Suk denied allegations that Lee, a 24-year-old university newspaper editor, was murdered before his body was thrown into the lake.

"Our thorough, strict and fair investigations have found no

evidence whatsoever of any homicide at the hands of police or anybody else or any suicide," Ryu said.

"Our conclusion is that he drowned after accidentally falling over a cliff into the reservoir while trying to avoid police checkpoints."

The main opposition party for peace and democracy led by veteran politician Kim Dae-Jung accused the prosecution of failing to clear many doubts about Lee's death.

Scores of radical students abandoned a five-day hunger strike today because of exhaustion, but about 60 others said they wouldn't stop protesting the death of Lee.

More than 200 other students abandoned the hunger strike or left to take weaker protesters home to provincial cities, leaders said.

Student leaders said they would not give up the hunger strike and expected other students to join them. Five students were hospitalised after collapsing from weakness.

About 300 radicals began the hunger strike at the cathedral late Thursday to demand that the government admit that police killed Lee.

Meanwhile, police said today that two shipyard workers set themselves on fire in suicide attempts because of a labour dispute. One of the workers died and the other was in critical condition, police said.

The workers set themselves on fire yesterday at the Daewoo Co. shipyard at Kojje island off the south coast, where workers are demanding pay raises.

Opposition leader Kim Young-Sam urged disgraced former president Chun Doo-Hwan today to testify before the National Assembly on allegations Chun handed over political funds to Roh.

Foreign interference

WARSAW, May 30, (AP): The government accused the opposition today of receiving campaign-financing from Western countries and appealed for a halt to what it called foreign interference in its parliamentary elections.

The development came in the final days of campaigning for Poland's first democratic elections since World War II. Voters are scheduled to go to the polls on Sunday to elect a new Senate and some members of the existing Sejm, or parliament.

Dutch refusal

THE HAGUE, May 30, (Reuters): A Dutch court has ruled it has no power to try an American soldier accused of murdering his wife in Amsterdam, but left unclear whether he would be tried in the United States, a US embassy spokesman said today.

An appeal court refused to judge Staff Sergeant Charles Short, who allegedly hacked his Turkish wife to death, on the grounds that a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) agreement requires soldiers to be tried in military courts.

Albanian shot dead

BELGRADE, May 30, (Reuters): Police shot dead an ethnic Albanian demonstrator today as fresh nationalist protests erupted in the southern Yugoslav province of Kosovo, the official news agency Tanjug said.

It said police and ethnic Albanians exchanged gunfire after scores of teenagers marched through the centre of the town of Podujevo, about 30 km (20 miles) north of the provincial capital of Pristina.

Vietnamese boat people

HONG KONG, May 30, (Reuters): Hong Kong, saying its resources for housing Vietnamese boat people have been overwhelmed today moved 350 men, women and children to an exposed island with only basic rations and no shelter.

The Vietnamese, the latest of the 2,300 boat people who have arrived in the British colony over the past three days, were taken by police launch and left under guard on Tai A Chau, the main island in the Soko Group.

Mexican journalists

MEXICO CITY, May 30, (Reuters): Mexican journalists have accused the authorities of blocking the discovery of the killers of a leading political columnist despite five years of investigations.

Manuel Buendia was shot in the back on May 30, 1984, by a lone gunman near a Mexico City parking lot. A special team of detectives has investigated over 300 suspects but no arrests have been made.

Uganda famine

KAMPALA, May 30, (Reuters): A famine in Uganda's far northwest is worsening and now affects about one million people, a team of government and United Nations officials said today.

In a specially commissioned report to the government, the team said as many as 85 severely malnourished people a day were being admitted for treatment in the region's two hospitals.

Greek elections

ATHENS, May 30, (Reuters): Greece's Socialist government was dealt a double blow this week when the Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze cancelled a visit and anger spread over a decision to run a jailed official in June elections.

South Africa crimes

JOHANNESBURG, May 30, (UPI): Murderers strike every four hours and rapists every 150 minutes in the metropolitan areas of Johannesburg, Pretoria and the sprawling black city of Soweto, according to police.

AIDS conference

GENEVA, May 30, (KUNA): Restrictions on the entry of AIDS victims into some countries are to be examined at an international conference of experts in Geneva later this year, the World Health Organisation announced today.

Taiwan premier

TAIPEI, May 30, (AP): Taiwan's parliament today confirmed veteran politician Lee Huan as the nation's new premier to succeed Yu Kuo-Hwa, who has been criticised for his cautious approach to economic and political reforms.

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PEOPLE AND PLACES

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin: The "Belle of Wisconsin," a mammoth, 20-ton (18,114 kg) block of cheddar cheese, has returned home after a yearlong tour of the United States.

The cheese — measuring 20 feet (6.1 metres) long, 6 feet (1.8 metres) wide and 6 feet tall — arrived in Milwaukee this past weekend after touring 350 cities throughout the United States.

"In the metropolitan areas, they didn't care much for it. There was so much else going on," said Pat Patterson, 59, who drove the Belle's custom-made semi-trailer truck some 55,000 miles (88,465 kms) in the past year.

"But in the outlying areas and in the suburbs there was a real good reaction, especially among the children," he said.

The Belle will begin a second tour of Wisconsin later this week that will end at the state fair in August. The block will then be sliced into one-pound chunks and sold around the United States. (AP)



Cooling off

A penguin appears to enjoy cooling off under a waterfall in the penguin enclosure at the Bristol Zoo on Monday. Southern England has been basking under some of the warmest temperatures and hours of sunshine ever recorded for May. (Reuters wire-photo)

TAUBERBISCHSHEIM, West Germany: A Yugoslav DC-9 with 172 people on board lost an engine cover over central West Germany but was able to land safely, police said on Monday.

The Saturday night flight from Manchester to Dusseldorf made an emergency landing at Frankfurt's Rhein-Main airport. The engine cover was found on Sunday in a field south-east of Frankfurt. (Reuters)

LA VERNE, California: Four neo-Nazis attacked a Jewish couple, their infant, and a black man who tried to help the couple before police arrived, officials said Monday.

The four, all of whom had shaved heads or close-cropped hair, were pulling bats from their cars as police pulled up, Sgt. John Ortega said.

Bystanders applauded Sunday as police arrested William R. Kilbackey, 21; his sister Amy Kilbackey, 19; Scott Wilson, 28; and Timothy Zaal, 25.

The four were booked for investigation of assault and violation of civil rights and held in lieu of \$50,000 bail each, Ortega said. (AP)

KANSAS CITY, Missouri: Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward will spend about two months here later this year to make a film about the lives of the Kansas City well-to-do in the years preceding World War II.

"Mr and Mrs Bridge" is based on Evan S. Connell's novels "Mrs Bridge" and "Mr Bridge."

Director James Ivory, whose credits include "A Room With A View" and "A Passage to India," arrived Friday to scout locations for the productions, which is scheduled to begin filming in August.

Ivory said the \$7 million film is relatively inexpensive by Hollywood standards. (AP)

BOULDER, Colorado: The leader of an international Buddhist community is in seclusion seeking guidance from the teachings of his 2,500-year-old religion amid reports he has AIDS and may have spread it among his followers.

Church leader refuse to confirm or deny the allegations swirling around Osel Tendzin, the first occidental to lead a Buddhist community, or reports that he refused to step down.

The 45-year-old father of four, who was born in New Jersey and attended Fordham University, went last fall into religious retreat — a traditional Buddhist practice. Meditation, he said, is "the best medicine."

Tendzin has been vague about the allegations, but some Buddhists in the 3,500-member Vajradhatu community have said he admitted in a tape played for them that he is suffering from Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. (AP)

NEW BRIGHTON, Minnesota: A four-year-old boy died after being struck by a car that fell off a monument in a cemetery that his father and grandfather were preparing for Memorial Day.

Matthew Bauer died in a hospital Thursday after the accident at St John's Catholic Cemetery.

"As I understand it, a cross or crucifix fell from one of the monuments," said Mayor Robert Behnke.

He said the boy's grandfather, fire chief Allen Bauer, was working as a caretaker in the cemetery along with his son, Jeffrey Bauer, at the time of the accident. (AP)



French image

Model Ines de la Fressange, who smiles in this 1987 photo, has been chosen for the 1990's image of the French Republic. De la Fressange will replace actress Catherine Deneuve as the model for 'Mariane' the image of the republic used in official buildings in France. (Reuters wire-photo)

Deneuve as the model for 'Mariane' the image of the republic used in official buildings in France. (Reuters wire-photo)

RAPID CITY, South Dakota: A killer on the US Marshals Service's 15 most-wanted list was captured Monday after he fled from a roadblock on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation, authorities said.

James Weddell, 33, of Wagner, was serving an 80-year manslaughter sentence for beating a man to death when he escaped from a maximum-security prison in Sioux Falls on May 26, 1987, with five other inmates. The others were captured.

Weddell was in a car that was stopped at the roadblock.

"The Pine Ridge police department was stopping cars coming back from some kind of a band concert... that they'd had down there," said Bob Leighton, a deputy US marshal from Rapid City. (AP)

SPRINGFIELD, New Jersey: A man who couldn't find work stabbed four people to death in his home during a rampage, authorities said. He was later arrested.

Local prosecutor John Stamler said the man was seized by state police shortly after the stabbings Monday afternoon in this suburban community, 25 miles (40 kms) from New York City.

Stamler said that at least three of the victims were relatives of the man, who was identified by neighbors as Roberto Marcelo, in his early 20s. Stamler said another victim apparently was a neighbor who got involved inadvertently in the family dispute.

Authorities said that neighbors saw the man flee a home and helped police with descriptions of him and his car. (AP)

HONOLULU: A Honolulu-bound jumbo jet with 205 people aboard developed a fuel leak over the Pacific Ocean, but landed safely early Monday after being diverted to Hilo, authorities said.

Pilots shut down the TWA airlines' left wing engine when fuel began leaking from the wing, said Don Morrison, an airline spokesman in St. Louis.

"The captain was not able to do anything to stop the leak, and made a precautionary landing in Hilo," Morrison said.

TWA Flight 335, bound from Los Angeles, reported it was low on fuel and 450 miles out of Honolulu late Sunday, according to Dick Hallen, a federal aviation administration duty officer in Los Angeles. (AP)

Fatigue, alcohol don't mix

OKLAHOMA CITY, May 30, (UPI): The one for the road could be coffee, but a quick nap might do more good.

Researchers say alcohol intoxication alone is a leading factor in many accidents caused by human error, but a person under the influence of alcohol who also is sleep-deprived may be even more likely to have an accident with catastrophic consequences.

"The cost to society in terms of loss of property and life, when individuals are operating either intoxicated or sleep-deprived, is astronomical," said Dr. Tom Smith, assistant professor of behavioral sciences at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Centre in Oklahoma City.

Smith is co-investigator in a four-year, \$463,000 research project designed to break down into stages the cognitive processes that occur between stimulus and response times in sleep-deprived and/or intoxicated individuals.

In research at the OU Health Sciences Centre, 110 right-handed males are being studied to determine what happens in the mind when information is presented to someone who is intoxicated, tired, or both.

Tests so far have shown that sleep deprivation affects the way information is perceived and evaluated, which could trigger accidents stemming from inaccurate perceptions, Smith said.

Alcohol, by contrast, increases the time required for selecting and carrying out an action.

Testing begins Cave woman fine

HOUSTON, May 30, (AP): A 27-year-old woman who spent a record 130 days isolated in a New Mexico cave began undergoing a series of tests yesterday that could yield clues about the medical effects of long-term space flight.

Early indications are that Stefania Follini, an interior decorator from Ancona, Italy, who volunteered for the experiment, is faring well despite losing 17 pounds (7 kilograms) and showing signs of lethargy and inattentiveness during her latter days in the underground plexiglass home.

"At this point, all of the results have been normal. There is nothing strange that we have noticed, not even simple anemia," said Dr. Andrea Galvagno, one of two Italian researchers who have monitored her health.

"There is nothing at this point that would make me feel nervous about her health," he said, adding that it is still too early to tell what specific effects the long-term isolation had on her immune system.

Dr. Jon DeFrance, who is assisting in the research, said previous isolation studies have shown "a change in the immune function whereby a person might become susceptible to certain types of diseases."

"Of course, this has rather profound implications for a space flight," said DeFrance, an associate professor at Texas Medical School in Houston.

A weeklong series of tests will include a skin sensitivity test at the Johnson Space Centre and a bone density examination at the Baylor College of Medicine here, researchers said.

Follini, whose sense of time became so disoriented during isolation that she emerged May 23 thinking the date was March 14, said she is still having a hard time adjusting again to a 24-hour day.

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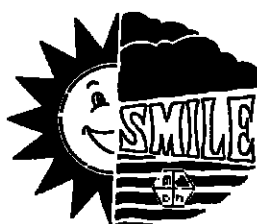
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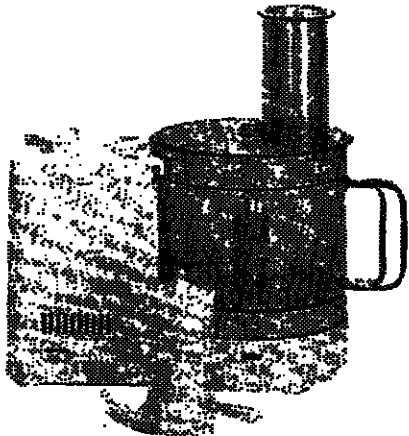
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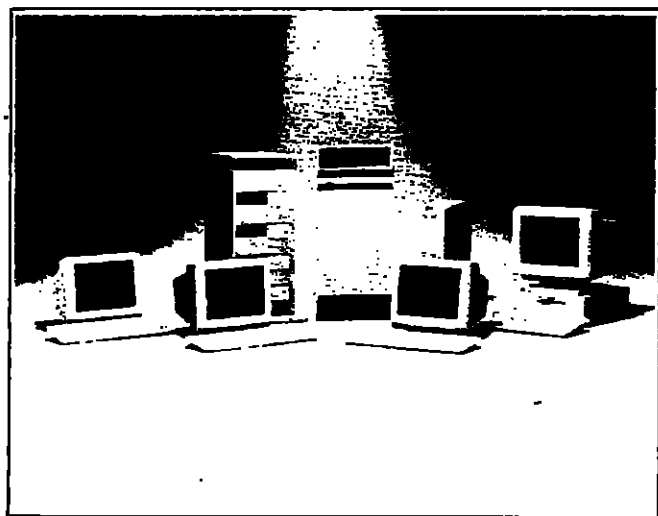


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Massacre feared as vigilantes attack Palestinians

HEBRON, occupied West Bank, May 30. (AP): Many Jewish settlers, frustrated by Arab stone and firebomb attacks, have launched a series of vigilante raids, burning cars, breaking windows, beating and sometimes shooting Palestinians.

Israeli commentators say the scope of the inter-communal violence between the 700,000 settlers and 1.7 million Arabs is unprecedented. Some raised

fears a major bloodletting could occur if violence got out of hand.

In one rampage yesterday, settlers entered the West Bank village of Kifl Harith near the settlement of Ariel, setting fire to field crops, olive trees and one house. Villagers threw stones, and the Israeli civilians opened fire, killing a 16-year-old girl and wounding two other Palestinians, according to Army and Arab reports.

Her death brought to 18 the number of Arabs killed by Israeli settlers since the Palestinian uprising began nearly 18 months ago. A total of 500 Palestinians have been killed, most of them in clashes with the Army.

"If it isn't stopped now, there will be mutual massacres between Jews and Arabs," columnist Alex Fishman warned in the independent Hadashot newspaper.

The focus of the tension is the city of Hebron, which has an Arab population of 80,000 and borders Kiryat Arba, an outpost of 5,000 militant Jews who want to make the West Bank a permanent part of a greater Israel.

Maj Gen Amram Mitzna, commander of troops in the West Bank, was quoted by the Jerusalem Post as telling a parliament committee there was now "an explosive situation

because of settler attitudes and actions."

The settlers blame Prime Minister Shamir's government and the Army command for being too lenient with Palestinians.

On the day that Mitzna spoke, settlers stopped Arab motorists and beat three of them after an Israeli had his hand blown off picking up a booby-trapped Israeli flag with a swastika painted on it. The settlers then

entered the village of Burin near Nablus and beat two men in their homes, Arab reports said.

One of the most serious settler reprisals occurred the night of May 25 after two firebombs narrowly missed a settler as he approached Kiryat Arba. Scores of settlers grabbed their guns and headed to an adjacent Arab neighbourhood, evading soldiers who tried to stop them.



Wounded and waiting

A Shiite Lebanese, one of 108 Muslims wounded in the artillery battle that pounded Beirut for two months, waits at Damascus airport for boarding an Iranian plane which will take him and other injured people to Iran for medical treatment. (Reuters wirephoto)

Settlers kill Arab girl in rampage

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 30. (Reuters): Police arrested 30 Israelis in the occupied West Bank today in a hunt for Jewish settlers who rampaged through an Arab village and shot dead a teen-age girl, security sources said.

Those arrested in the settlements of Eilon Moreh and Itzer near Nablus included Jewish religious seminary students, the sources said. Some of the settlers said earlier they fired in only self-defence.

Army radio said about 30 seminary students shot dead the Arab girl, wounded two youths and caused extensive damage to property in the West Bank village of Kifl Harith yesterday.

Yoshua Shapira told Israel Radio the group went to pray at the tombs of Jewish biblical heroes in the village and fired only when attacked by stone-throwing Arabs.

"There was real danger to our lives... they threw stones, rocks," he said. "I fired only in the air even though the situation, from the legal point of view, allowed me to shoot to wound."

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin described the Kifl Harith shootings as "indiscriminate, punitive actions" and said troops had orders to take action against settlers who misused their weapons.

"I think acts of this kind are not only a felony and a crime and an offence to Jewish values, they will also fan the hatred and increase the violence and perhaps also terrorism in the (occupied) territories," he told reporters.

Israeli troops and their South Lebanon Army militia allies shot dead an Arab commando and an SLA fighter was wounded today in the second clash in 48 hours in the border region, the Israeli Army said.

An Israeli patrol in Israel's self-declared south Lebanon security zone spotted the commando about eight kms (five miles) from the border and opened fire, military sources said.

PLO reportedly accepts elections

Baker hurt Israel: Arens

JERUSALEM, May 30. (AP): Foreign Minister Moshe Arens criticised US Secretary of State James A. Baker today, saying Baker harmed Israel and the peace process when he publicly denounced Israeli policies in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Also today, Israeli legislator Yossi Sarid revealed that the PLO has already agreed to elections and passed this on to Washington. Sarid of the left-wing Citizens Rights Movement told parliament.

Arens and Sarid spoke in a stormy parliament debate on a Baker speech last week in which the secretary of state called on Israel to "lay aside once and for all the unrealistic vision of a greater Israel" that would include the occupied lands.

Arens suggested that Baker harmed Israel by breaking a long-standing tradition that the United States and Israel discuss their differences privately.

"The image of close relations helps the advancement of peace in the region. It's important that the Arabs understand that these are the relations between the United States and Israel. This image is also important for Israel's deterrent power," Arens said.

"I'm sure Baker didn't intend to harm Israel... but sometimes you hurt someone without intention," Arens said.

Referring to media descriptions of Baker's speech as balanced, Arens said: "How can one of our allies take a balanced position between us and our enemies, between us and those who attacked us five times?"



Arens: critical

Refugee families may go to Gaza

CANADA CAMP, Egypt, May 30. (Reuters): They hardly dare believe that their dream of returning to the homeland they call Palestine is about to be realised.

But 20 of the 500 families housed in Canada Camp, on the Egyptian side of the border with the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip, have been told to prepare to move after a seven-year wait.

It could mark the first step in the promised transfer from Egypt of more than 4,500 refugees to the Israeli-ruled territory on the Mediterranean coast.

The camp headman or mukhtar, Atla Mouslem, told Reuters on Saturday that Egyptian officials had advised him that Israeli authorities are ready to start taking the refugees back.

"It's in the hands of God," he said. "There have been many promises but I think this one is serious."

In Cairo on Sunday an Israeli embassy spokesman confirmed that preparations were under way.

Palestinians were moved to Canada Camp after Israel captured Sinai in 1967. The camp was named after a Canadian contingent of emergency forces stationed there in the 1960s.

Separated

The refugees were separated from 600,000 other Palestinians in the Gaza Strip when Israel withdrew from Sinai in 1982. Ever since, the 4,800 residents have waited to be returned under the terms of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty signed 10 years ago.

Sometime during the first week of June, Mouslem said, the heads of the 20 families will be summoned to the barbed-wire fence that marks the border.

There, under supervision of Israeli and Egyptian officials, they will meet relatives from the other side who have expressed willingness to accommodate them in their homes.

The border is known as the shouting fence. Families divided by the ebb and flow of the Arab-Israeli dispute shout news across the coils of razor wire, watched by Israeli and Egyptian soldiers.

During the 17-month Palestinian uprising or intifada against Israeli rule in the occupied territories, residents of Canada Camp's one-storey concrete houses have smelled the tear-gas and heard shouting as Israel forces tried to quell the protests.

"The intifada has had a strong psychological influence on us," said school supervisor Mohamed Nagar, 52. "It has revived our spirits and given us hope that a solution (to the Palestinian issue) will materialise, if not sooner then later."

From time to time Canada Camp's refugees have staged sympathy demonstrations, often taking their cue from Jerusalem Radio, the Syrian-backed station that devotes most of its broadcasts to the uprising.

Most of the camp's refugees are jobless. A local school and distribution of food are the only sources of employment — apart from 55 people who had jobs in the Gaza Strip before the border change and are still allowed to work there during the week.

Egypt-Libya Reopening of border

CAIRO, May 30. (Reuters): Egypt is preparing to reopen its border crossings with Libya, which have been closed for more than a decade, officials said today.

But they denied a report carried by the national Middle East News Agency (MENA) that the crossings were already open.

"We are waiting for the political decision ordering the reopening of the border," one official at the coastal border city of Mersa Matruh said in an interview.

He said customs, passports, security and health officials were in Mersa Matruh to discuss preparations for reopening the crossings.

"We want to be ready... after we heard the good news from the Casablanca summit," the official said, referring to the meetings between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi at the Arab League summit in Morocco.

Fahd supports Lebanon

Israel, Syria urged to withdraw

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, May 30. (AP): King Fahd in an interview to be published today said Israel should withdraw its forces from Lebanon and indirectly stated that Syria should do the same.

"The final (Arab) summit) communicate clearly stipulated that Lebanon should be backed internationally to end the Israeli occupation, and the communicate also mentioned clearly the summit's support for Lebanon in spreading total sovereignty over its land to safeguard its

security and stability with its own forces," said Fahd.

The statement was made by the Saudi monarch in an interview in Casablanca, Morocco with Saudi newspaper editors that went with the king to the Arab League summit last week.

The interview will be published today and an advance copy was made available to the Associated Press.

The reference to Lebanon's "own forces" was an indirect call for Syria to withdraw its 40,000 Syrian troops from Lebanon. The Syrian force was sent there by Arab League mandate in 1976, and Syria balked at all summit proposals to replace the force.

The summit has named Fahd, along with Moroccan King Hassan II and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid to work out a settlement to the 14-year civil war. The panel was given six months to work out a solution after a previous Arab League committee headed by Kuwait failed.

The Syrian forces have been fighting in the latest round of civil war violence, siding with the Muslims against the Christians led by Gen. Michel Aoun. Aoun said the fight he started March 8 is a "war of liberation" against Syria.

Gulf diplomatic sources confirmed a "gentleman's agreement" at the Casablanca parley, whereby Syria will as a first stage toward a Lebanese settlement pull out troops from the capital Beirut within three months.

Israel maintains a security enclave in south Lebanon and has been resisting a UN Security Council resolution calling for its liquidation.

The same sources, who spoke on condition they not be named, also referred to Fahd's upcoming visit in July to the United States when they expected him to push hard for Washington's backing for the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

The Saudi monarch said the summit produced "positive" outcomes on the issues it tackled, listing Lebanon, the Palestinian problem, the Iraq-Iran situation and the resetting of Egypt on the 22-member Arab League after a 10-year hiatus.

Efforts praised

Official defends Arafat

KUWAIT, May 30. (KUNA): The head of the Political Department at the Palestine Liberation Organisation Farouk Qadumi denied that Palestinian President Yasser Arafat has abrogated the Palestinian charter.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti daily, published here today, Qadumi added that neither Arafat nor Qadumi could abrogate the Palestinian National Charter.

He noted that the Palestinian state "is drawn on the political map" and 104 states had recognised it, affirming that the Palestinian people are struggling for their legitimate rights on their land, in



Qadumi: valid

He praised efforts exerted by Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed to find appropriate solutions for Lebanon.

3 die in attack on UN convoy taking food to Sudan

KHARTOUM, Sudan, May 30. (AP): Gunmen killed three people and seriously injured one in an attack on a United Nations-sponsored emergency food delivery from Uganda to the war-torn southern Sudan, a UN official said today.

Diane Weathers, a spokeswoman for the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, said it was not immediately possible to identify the nationalities of the dead and injured "except they were not UN staffers."

Despite the attack, Van Den Top, director of the World Food Programme in Rome emphasised that food deliveries by trucks to south Sudan will continue.

"We will not suspend the trucks transportation. We will examine the situation but will not suspend the transportation by trucks," he told the Associated Press in Khartoum.

Weathers said earlier in Nairobi that United Nations officials had postponed emergency food deliveries by road between

Kaya and Juba, though Yei as a result of the attack.

An ongoing airlift from Entebbe, Uganda, to southern Sudan regional capital, Juba, will continue, she said.

Weather said one of the 20 trucks carrying 270 tons of corn was also destroyed by a landmine.

Top said the incident took place "sometime earlier and was not part of yesterday (Sunday's) attack by bandits."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Amiri audience

KUWAIT, May 30, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir today received HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber.

HH the Amir also received the board chairman and members of the Kuwaiti Farmers Union.

Amiri cable

KUWAIT, May 30, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir today sent a cable of congratulations to President of the Supreme Soviet Mikhail Gorbachev on the occasion of his election to this post.

Premier's audience

KUWAIT, May 30, (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah today received in audience Higher Education Minister Dr. Ali Abdullah Al Shamlan, Justice and Legal Affairs Minister Dhari Abdullah Al Othman, Public Works Minister Abdul Rahman Ibrahim Al Houti and State Minister for Services Affairs Issa Mohammed Al Mazidi.

Sheikh Saad also received Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Planning Fuad Mulla Hussein, Kuwaiti Ambassador to Sudan Abdullah Al Suraya, chairman and members of the Kuwaiti Farmers Union.

Later, he received Major General Abdul Aziz Al Sayeg and Brigadier Abdulhamid Al Haji.

\$100,000 donated

KUWAIT, May 30, (KUNA): Kuwait has donated \$100,000 to finance the establishment of an Islamic centre in Valencia, Spain, it was announced here today.

Secretary General of the Organisation of the Arab Cities Abdul Aziz Al Adasani said that the organisation had received a letter from Kuwait Finance Ministry that the Cabinet had decided to finance the Islamic project in Spain.

Adasani expressed thanks on behalf of the organisation to Kuwait, HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah and the Crown Prince and Prime Minister HH Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah for the generous donation.

Adasani added that there were about 600 Muslim families in Valencia who asked the organisation to approach Valencia's municipality to allocate land for the Islamic centre.

Education mission

AMMAN, May 30, (KUNA): A Kuwaiti delegation of the Public Authority of Applied Education and Training left here for Cairo Monday concluding a three-day official mission in Jordan.

The delegation, comprising the dean of Commercial Studies College Dr. Hassan Al Basher Al Tayeb and his assistant Dr. Jassim Al Omar, held a series of meetings with a number of Jordanian academics of the Jordan and Yarmouk universities.

Meetings aimed to recruit some Jordanian academics to work with academic institutions of Kuwait in accordance with the educational and cultural agreements signed between Kuwait and Jordan, and to further boost bilateral relations of the two sisterly states.

Microfilm system

DIRECTOR of Follow Up Department at Kuwait's National Housing Authority (NHA) Subhi Al Mulla has praised the study prepared by the Ministry of Planning concerning setting up of a microfilm system at the authority.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that the proposed system is currently at its final stages and the NHA had allocated the necessary budget in addition to the formation of the pertinent committee which will follow up the issue.

Consumers should pay their bills, says MEW official

Actual costs much higher

THE Assistant Undersecretary of MEW for consumer affairs Ali Al Faisani has said that the delay in receiving payment for power and water consumption is a serious problem facing the ministry. He added that delay causes confusion in collecting the bills and increases the workload for the next year because old bills will be distributed over the new bills.

There is no reason for delay but consumers are usually not concerned in paying their bills. The ministry does not cut the power from the consumer's house before warning the consumer and calling him to pay the bills. The power is supplied again as soon as the consumer pays his bills.

Faisani pointed out that power bills are estimated on the average of actual consumption of a year before. The total value of the consumption is distributed over ten bills paid in ten months. The office of the ministry is ready to

hear any complaint and to examine the meters in houses to make sure of accuracy of the bills, he said. He added that most mistakes in bills are because of wrong reading from meters. He added that the ministry is working to develop a system of issuing power and water bills and to follow them up. There is also a study to use the latest technology in making and collecting these bills, he said.

He pointed out that reducing the tariff of power consumption of chalets from 20 fils a kilowatt to 10 fils increased the number of owners of chalets who submitted applications to supply them with power. He added that people should remember that actual costs of power production are much more than what they pay for. One kilowatt costs the state about 20 fils while the ministry collects 2 fils from the consumers. The production of each 1,000 gallons of water costs about 2,200 fils while the ministry collects 800 fils, he said.

GCC ministers discuss media accessibility

Exchange of radio, TV programmes on agenda

BAHRAIN, May 30, (Reuters): Information ministers of six Gulf Arab states began talks in Bahrain today on how to become more open and accessible to the media.

"We want to be more open to the local and international press by speaking more freely and more objectively...we also want to be more accessible," Bahrain Information Minister Tariq Al Moayyed told Reuters.

Ministers of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) "want to make sure the right picture is projected, and that channels of information are quickly available as events are happening," he added.

They aimed to agree on "a common policy to be projected through the foreign media," he said.

The GCC groups Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates in an economic and

political alliance. Censorship is rare, but newspapers in all six states generally avoid publishing stories on sensitive issues and officials contacted by reporters rarely speak on the record.

In April, Kuwait suspended the Arabic Al Rai Al Aam daily for a week for violating censorship rules while Bahrain ordered its Akhbar Al Khaleej daily to stop publi-

shing for two days for reporting a controversial divorce case.

Khalil Thawadi, Bahrain assistant undersecretary for culture and national heritage, told Reuters the ministers would also discuss ways of promoting the exchange of locally-made television and radio programmes.

Plans to train more GCC nationals as journalists and improve newspaper circulation were also on the agenda, he said.



Rqobah inspecting the Doha east power station yesterday.

Rqobah inspects Doha east, west power stations

THE Minister of Electricity and Water Dr. Hmoud Abdullah Al Rqobah made an inspection tour of the East and West Doha stations yesterday.

He was received at the station by the assistant undersecretary for power plants, water desalination and electrical networks Hmoud Saleh Al Inzi.

The minister presided over two separate meetings of the stations managers and heads of the component departments, during which he was briefed on the progress of work.

He then toured the different control rooms and turbine halls.

The minister's visit falls within the framework of a series of similar visits MEW power and water plants in Zoor and Shuaiba and stores and installations of the central works department in Sabhan to get a first-hand look on the progress of work and efforts being exerted by the working staff to handle peak power and water consumption during the summer season.

The minister's visits were also made in response to directives by HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

School leavers asked to register for employment

BAHRAIN'S Director of Labour Abdul Rahman Zayani has called upon the island's local school leavers facing problems finding employment to register their names with the Labour Ministry's local employment unit.

According to Zayani a large number of Bahraini students who graduate from schools, universities and other educational institutions will be seeking jobs next month.

The Director of Labour said that registration will enable the ministry to find suitable jobs for the applicants, thereby boosting employment for Bahrainis in the private sector.

Combined efforts by the Directorate of Labour, other departments and committees have enabled the government to reduce the number of unemployed Bahrainis, said Zayani. He further added that the number of registration of Bahrainis seeking work has dropped from 3,000 last November to about 2,350 at present.

As part of the official policy to promote and increase 'Bahrainisation' the government is committed to encourage young unemployed Bahrainis to seek work in the private sector, thereby reducing dependence on expatriate labour.

MAP founders lauded

KUWAIT, May 30, (KUNA): Chairman of Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdel Aziz Al Sager lauded the noble, humanitarian activities of the Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) in assisting the Palestinian people in Lebanon and the occupied Arab territories.

Sager, who spoke last night at a festival held in honour of visit-

ing MAP founders, said this medical organisation stands as a witness to the suffering of the Palestinian people and the brutal acts of the Zionists.

The delegation that arrived here yesterday on a fund-raising campaign, included Dr. Swee Chai Ang, Dr. Pauline Cutting, Dr. Rafiq Hussein and Dr. Wad-dah Bargouthi.

Municipality affairs committee decides on various services

New premises allocated

THE Kuwait Municipality affairs committee held its meeting recently under the chairmanship of Mohammed Abdulmohsen Al Rifai, a local daily reported.

It added that the committee discussed in its meeting a letter from the minister of planning concerning moving nurseries of the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fisheries from Al Omariyah and Al Rabiyyah areas.

The meeting also discussed a request submitted by the Ministry of Finance concerning establishing of new premises for the customs department. The committee agreed to the request and Shuwaikh second area opposite Jamal Abdunaser Street has been selected as the site.

The committee, upon the request of the Ministry of Public Health decided to keep the infec-

tious diseases hospital at its current location at Al Andalus area in addition to expanding the hospital to accommodate an additional 100 beds.

The committee had also agreed to level and develop Al Salam coast in the Shuwaikh area and Al Najfa coast near Salwa area.

Cleaning department

The Municipal affairs committee has also approved the decision issued by Rifai changing the title of the Cleaning and Road Works Department to the Department of Public Cleanliness.

The decision also merged the Control of Road Works in the Department of Food and Shop Licensing, and the Control of Peddlars to the same department, while the term 'incinerators' is changed into burial.

Under the same decision the

Department of Health Affairs at the Municipality will be responsible for public cemeteries, undertaking funerals and burial services. The Public Cleanliness Department will control the percolation pits and drainage of waste matter tanks, as well as supervise public convenience services.

The committee reviewed an application submitted by the Food Agro-production Company for allocation of a marketing stand at Jahra vegetable market to sell local products.

It also fixed the working hours of the Shuwaikh Central Vegetable and Fruits Market, and decided to arrange for illumination of the area during the night.

The committee also set the hours from midnight to 6 in the morning as the time for unloading food and vegetable consignments.

Prices of construction materials double

IN a poll conducted by a local daily on prices of construction materials and costs of building plots, a large number of citizens at Fintas east area complained of the lack of censorship on the prices of construction materials. They added that the prices of these materials have doubled during the past few years, especially when the Public Authority for Housing started distributing residential plots among citizens.

Most citizens were surprised at

the large hike in prices — especially since merchants who sell construction materials don't have any additional labour expenses. They said that merchants exploit citizens in need of such materials.

Citizens unanimously said the loans obtained by banks in order to build their houses are not enough to cover construction expenses. They said that only building a basement costs KD10,000. They pointed out

that most of their houses contain basements and that a KD54,000 loan could not cover the required cost of building a complete house.

Abdullah Turki Al Hajri, a citizen, said that prices of construction materials are expensive and that materials presented by the Ministry of Commerce are not enough. On behalf of all citizens, he called upon official authorities to increase the amount of these materials, specially basic materials.

Hajri demanded that the municipality supervise all construction operations, particularly when two plots are near each other and one was without a basement.

He urged the municipality along with the Public Authority for Housing to co-operate in distributing booklets to citizens to guide them while building their houses. He praised the Credit and Savings Bank staff for their efforts in facilitating the process of housing loans.

Airport road U-turns to be eliminated

THE Department of Planning at Kuwait Municipality provisionally approved the cancellation of U-turns on the Airport Road between the 3rd and 4th Ring Roads in the area separating Khaldiya and Shuwaikh.

A study was made on this issue and requires the approval of the Traffic Department. The Planning Department has proposed the construction of U-shaped crossings in place of the U-turns with the use of traffic lights. It recommended technical adjustment to maintain the flow of traffic between the 3rd and 4th Ring Roads on the Airport Road by timing the proposed traffic lights with the already existing ones.

Drivers have repeatedly complained of the bad position of the U-turns and called upon authorities to abolish them.



CBK trains Education Ministry staff

A delegation comprising trainees from the Ministry of Education's Public Relations and Information Department visited the Commercial Bank of Kuwait on May 28, 1989. The visit was an extension of the recently held Public Relations Seminar under the ministry's auspices in which Ms Dalal Al Ghanim, assistant general manager of the bank's Marketing Division participated.

During the visit the trainees attended a presentation on the bank's public relations activities at the Marketing Division. In connection with the presentation Enad Abdul Rahman, manager of the bank's Training Department gave a lecture on bank's various activities. The trainees also familiarised themselves with the functioning of different areas in the bank.

University strives to upgrade graduate performance

THE Faculty of Engineering and Petroleum at Kuwait University is studying manpower requirements of the local and regional markets to determine the number of students to be admitted to a particular faculty every year, Dr. Hassan Alwi, dean of the faculty, said.

"The faculty is striving to graduate engineers with high

standards of expertise and the faculty is proud of the results," Alwi added.

Evaluation

The highest percentage of Kuwaiti students are now studying in the faculty compared to previous years, the official said, and added that the faculty has a plan to send outstanding graduates abroad to obtain doc-

torate degrees from prestigious international universities.

On obtaining their degrees, they will return to Kuwait and be appointed on the teaching staff at Kuwait University, Alwi said.

The faculty is preparing to have its curriculums evaluated by the American Technological and Engineering Education Authority. An organisational structure of

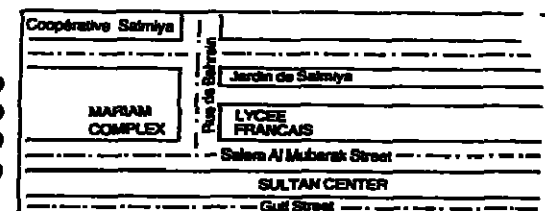
the faculty was made for the administrative units and committees which is being reviewed by the council of the faculty. The structure aims at developing educational services and research at the university. The faculty is planning to develop and maintain its building and installations during the interim period prior to shifting to the new campus in Shuwaikh, Alwi said.

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مكتبة النخيل

KUWAIT ... GULF

EEC will not affect UK-Kuwait ties: Young

Equitable treatment of Kuwaiti investments

BRITISH Trade and Industry Secretary Lord Young has assured Kuwait that closer European economic ties envisaged beginning 1992 will not affect Britain's traditional good relations with the Gulf.

Addressing newsmen at the British embassy yesterday, Lord Young said the UK wanted to "assure" Kuwait that it would boost traditional relations.

After 1992, he said, the long-standing ties between the two trading partners would be "a bridge between Gulf states and Europe".

AP reports that a "further closing of EEC ranks could translate into stiffer customs duties or tighter trade barriers for outsiders". Quoting diplomatic sources, it said that Kuwait has possibly more than five billion dollars invested in Britain.

The GCC states have for years been resisting the EEC tariffs on their budding petrochemical industry exports to Western Europe.

UK is the largest trading partner with the GCC as a whole. The 1987 trade figures show that the UK exported £280 million worth of goods to Kuwait and imported £72 million in return.

"We further hope to boost these relations," said Lord Young.

Commenting on negotiations between the GCC and the EEC,



Lord Young

he said talks "still have to get underway" and it was too "early for specific negotiations." He did not rule out a possible economic agreement adding that such an agreement is "still to get underway".

Answering a question, Lord Young said British companies are examining a considerable number of projects. Credit facilities to companies operating

in Iraq were raised to £300 million. "We expect to see British companies playing a role in Iraq's reconstruction project," he said.

Commenting on trade ties with Iran, he said Britain would like improved trade relations with Tehran but when the political climate is better. "Since the Rushdie affair, trade with Iran has declined; in principle,

we'll improve our (trade) when the political climate is better," he said.

He said Kuwaiti investments would be treated "precisely as British investments" and will be subject to British laws. He denied there has been a decline in investments following the BP shares issue.

He said the issue (of BP shares) is an incident behind us and there is no residue of any feelings anywhere.

Lord Young met separately with HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah and Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah. He also held talks with his Kuwaiti counterpart Faisal Al Khaled, Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi and Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah.

Lord Young told reporters that he held "useful talks" with Kuwaiti leaders on boosting trade relations. No agreements were signed.

Lord Young and the accompanying delegation left Kuwait yesterday, ending a three-day official visit. They were seen off at the airport by Minister of Commerce and Industry, Faisal Al Khaled, British Ambassador Peter Hinchcliffe and Director of the Commerce Ministry's Legal Department Youssef Shihab Al Bahar.

Islamic countries to receive Amiri gift

Encyclopaedia to contain OIC data

KUWAIT, May 30, (KUNA): HH the Amir, current chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), is to present an encyclopaedia of the Muslim world as a gift to the Islamic countries and people, Minister of Awkaf and Religious Affairs Khaled Al Jassar announced today.

The encyclopaedia, co-authored by Muslim scholars and experts from within and outside Kuwait, will detail historical background, geographic data, census figures and up-to-date information on the food, health, education and social situation in each of the 46-member states of the OIC, he said.

Jassar pointed out that the work, supervised by the Kuwait Ministry of Planning, will be published in Arabic, English and French to avail researchers and interested persons a wealth of knowledge about Muslim potentials.

Potential

The official announced that the encyclopaedia would be made ready during the last quarter of this year and would be presented by HH the Amir to heads of OIC states, concerned governments, universities and institutes of higher learning to be under disposal of decision-makers and interested researchers.

Ministry of Communications Five-year plan meeting held

KUWAIT, May 30, (KUNA): The Higher Planning Committee at the Ministry of Communications held its meeting yesterday under the chairmanship of the Minister of Communication Abdullah Al Sharhan.

The meeting discussed several topics including the tender of magnetised cards for public telephones.

The committee suggested a comprehensive study of the bids which would then be debated during the next meeting of the committee scheduled to take place next week.

The committee also discussed the ministry's telecommunication five-year plan (1990/1995) including expanding of the relevant networks in addition to replacing the old exchange and establishing a new exchange and net work to keep in line with the state's developed housing plan.

The new five-year plan includes among other things the establishing of an experimental project for integrated services system to be based on digital network system in addition to expanding and modernising the ministry's international exchange and providing new central premises for the international exchange with the latest equipment.

The plan also aims at purchasing new telephone sets, fax and intercom apparatuses to be sold to subscribers as well as the supply and installation of a new system for wireless control stations situated in the Capital, Al Jahra and Al Wafra and expanding of the current wireless control station located in Al Doha area.

Meanwhile, the Higher Planning Committee budget debated the requirements of the first and the second chapter of the ministry's budget in the light of the five-year plan projects.

Amir establishes equestrian clubs

KUWAIT, May 30, (KUNA): HH the Amir had ordered the establishment of two equestrian clubs at his own expense in the governorates of Al Ahmadi and Al Farwaniya, announced today by the chairman of the Supreme Committee for Horse Racing Sheikh Khaled Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah.

NASA visit

A DELEGATION from the Kuwait Science Club will visit the American National Aeronautics and Space Agency (NASA) during July this year.

The delegation will participate in Space Science Camp to be organised in the US town of Jackson. They will participate in an intensive course in space science.



Farewell to Hoopers

US Ambassador to Kuwait Nathaniel Howell on Monday hosted a reception to say farewell to outgoing American Counsellor James Hooper. A large number of diplomats, officials and businessmen attended. Above: Mrs and Mr. Howell (left) pictured with the Hoopers.

Ministry employee swindles colleagues

A MINISTRY employee working in Kuwait for the last 15 years is alleged to have fled after cheating his colleagues out of a large sum of money, a local daily reported yesterday.

According to the daily, one of the accused's colleagues claimed that the swindler had managed to collect over KD100,000 on the pretext of investing these funds in a venture he guaranteed would provide very handsome returns.

The colleague said that he gave the cheat KD2000 which amount he obtained by selling gold ornaments belonging to his wife. The cheat had promised him KD60 per month by way of profits. After a lapse of four months without payment, the cheat gave him two cheques for KD1,000 each. Both bounced.

Dud

A lady victim also said that she had given the victim money and had received a cheque which was post-dated to June — the cheque was a dud.

Another lady disclosed that one of the victims gave the cheat KD19,000, another KD30,000 while other amounts ranged between KD10,000 and KD5,000. She said that the swindler had told all the victims that they would be surprised very soon. They were surprised all right — he disappeared, as also did the money, she added. The swindler is being sought for in Cairo, says the lady.

Pastures constitute high percentage of total land

HEAD of Guidance Department at Kuwait's Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs Ahmed Abdulwahab was quoted as saying that pasture lands in Kuwait constitute a high percentage of the country's total land.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that organising pastures requires setting up programmes for agriculture. Cultivating agricultural land will preserve pastures in the country, he added.

He also called for developing natural ranges which would eventually contribute to developing livestock he added.

An appropriate system for irrigation to preserve pastures and provide necessary fertilisers for agricultural land, should be implemented, he said.

Aridity

Speaking on the reasons for the aridity of pastures, the official said that this could be attributed to the denaturalisation of the soil and to the increase of livestock feeding on limited land.

He warned that natural ranges in Kuwait are being threatened and to avoid this the official called for setting up the necessary strategy for protecting the ranges and for increasing productivity.

WEATHER

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Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 46°C 115°F
Ahmadi: 43°C 109°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 20°C 68°F
Ahmadi: 33°C 91°F
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Kuwait: 46°C 115°F
Ahmadi: 43°C 109°F
Minimum humidity recorded:
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Erratic wage structure in private sector

(Continued from Page 1)

new contract, with a 30 to 50 per cent lower wages. Hundreds of private sector employees accepted because they had no other choice. Reduction of wages on the job is against the labour law, which clearly states that the law has been designed to "protect wages and its non-reduction." Employers had found a convenient way out — first firing and then rehiring the same people on new contracts — to evade legal loopholes. There is a no restriction on rehiring the same employee.

The wage freeze slapped by some companies during the Gulf war years, was mainly responsible for stagnation, employers confirmed. During the same period consumer prices shot up by about 30 per cent; rents tripled and the cost of living went up considerably during the same period.

People's earnings in the private sector, instead of increasing, declined steadily, triggering a recession.

Only a handful of reputable companies care for their employees, offering substantial wages and perks. Such companies, during the recession, did not reduce salaries — they cut back staff. Among them were leading business houses and some automobile companies.

In most private companies, qualifications and experience have little bearing on the wages earned by a person. How much a person earns, or can earn, depends on an individual's bargaining and persuasive powers at the time of employment, and whether he or she is in the good books of the employer. Hard work, loyalty and other attributes are demanded of employees, but most employers fail to recognise or even acknowledge them through such incentives as a raise or an allowance.

Employees claim there is "no job security" and employers claim the workers have "no sense of commitment and loyalty."

"The concept of 'sharing' with an employee is just not there," said a top employer.

Promotions are non-existent in most private sector companies. Employers prefer to hire an outsider for an upper bracket vacant post rather than promote from among his own staff.

Discrimination

There is a tendency among employers to pay European and American employees more than those from Third World countries, regardless of qualification and experience. To cite a case an Asian earns nearly 108 per cent less on the same job as an European or an American does, with relatively less education and experience.

One case that was particularly interesting was of an Asian who has two post-graduate degrees, with 13 years experience in his field, drawing a salary of KD480 in comparison with his Western boss, who is less qualified and has eight years experience but earns above KD1,000.

Arabs earn higher salaries at any given time. For example, an Arab secretary can command a 30 per cent higher salary than a non-Arab one; a secretary with "native English" qualification commands preferential treatment by virtue of being a "native English" speaker.

Wages are a touchy subject in Kuwait. How much a person earns is a closely guarded secret. However, through a questionnaire distributed to 100 people, one gets a vague, erratic picture of monthly wages. "We also interviewed several individuals and employers. One must view the outcome of our survey as a mere guideline of trends rather than a wage structure. No wage structure, in conventional terms, exists in the private sector that gives a clear picture in terms of the lowest and highest paid. As such, there is no basic scale for a given profession."

One can, with some hesitation, say salaries range between a given minimum and maximum. Examples:

Typists: KD120 to KD200;
Clerks: KD120 to KD250;
Secretaries: KD240 to KD350;
Teachers: KD100 to KD350;
Journalists: KD150 to KD1,000;
Electricians: KD70 to KD150;
Engineers: KD250 to KD1,500;
Computer scientists: KD800 and above;
Top management: KD450 to KD2,000 and above.

Interesting factors emerge. One is a tendency among most employers to extract maximum work for minimum wages; a factory most employers admit "destroys initiative and motivation" among employees. However, not much is done by a majority of companies to provide job satisfaction.

Hotels and banks, which also fall in the private sector, have a fairly defined, relatively better, pyramidal wage structure. The present pay scale (approximate) in the hotel industry is:

Top Management: KD500 and above (maximum not specified); Executives: KD250 to KD500; Middle Management: KD130 to KD250; Supervisors: KD70 to KD130; Rank and File: KD55 to KD70.

Hotel employees also get accommodation, food and at times tips from hotel guests; an annual increment plus an air ticket. The wage of hotel workers, which was substantially higher (exact figures are not divulged by most hotels) five years ago dropped to the present scale to an influx of cheap labour from Third World countries.

Banks refused to divulge their pay structure; but from individual interviews with bank employees, it seems that their pay structure is also organised; with a basic scale as a guideline for payment to new recruits. Bank employees enjoy such perks as annual bonus; air ticket every two years; annual increments, depending on a person's job description in the middle and lower management level and, occasionally, an extra bonus on festivals.

A fallout of recession is the "delayed" payment syndrome affecting a large majority of

employees. Employers delay payment between two months and nine months. The term "delay" has a different connotation. For example, an engineer who has not been paid explained that his accumulated non-payment comes to nine months salary. Some companies don't pay employees for three months; then, they give two months lump sum wages. A month's payment is carried over, and accumulates over a period of time, ranging from two months to 9 months.

Slump

Domestic, construction labourers and cleaners are the worst hit by reduced salaries.

Domestics earning KD80 or more five years ago today draw KD40 or less per month; a 50 per cent drop. Again, as in other professions, wages vary, but currently range between KD20 and KD40. Those employed before 1984, and have not changed jobs, still draw between KD50 and KD65, but such cases are few and far between.

Labourers' wages have slumped. A construction worker who earned between KD70 to KD150 in the good old days of the boom presently draws between KD50 and KD80, depending on his skill. Daily wages, which were KD12, have dropped to KD6.

The salary of cleaners fell from between KD70 and KD100 to between KD20 and KD40; with an increasing number of complaints about delayed payment.

The domestics — maids, drivers, gardeners and helpers — are not covered by the private sector labour law.

One vital factor in the drop of salaries, economists say, is the influx of "cheap labour" from Third World countries like Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Philippines, Thailand and China, and to some extent from Indonesia.

Economists believe that "wages are governed by demand and supply." During the boom period, demand was higher than the supply. Now, they say, the supply has gone up, building a surplus labour force. Employers, who already had an advantage, presently enjoy the privilege of hiring the person asking for the lowest pay. "Why should we pay more when we can get the same work done for a lower cost?" they ask.

"The job market has become increasingly competitive. This is one reason for the whimsical hiring and firing by employers and absence of job security," explained an employer.

In the final analysis, workers, who are caught in a vicious circle, are, to an extent, themselves responsible for declining wages. In an open, free job market, there are fewer jobs and more job seekers except in technical fields like engineering, computers and automobile mechanics. A majority of employers reduce salaries to pursue the "rationalisation" policy; in other words cutbacks adopted by most companies.

Due to the absence of "long-term" employment and an urge to "seek better prospects," employees change jobs quite often. "As a result, there is no



Smugglers arrested

Jahra detectives arrested two groups of smugglers in Kheltan and Fintas areas. The first group consists of five men, three Iraqis one Saudi and one Kuwaiti. The second comprised three Iraqis and one Kuwaiti. Liquor, machine-guns and ammunition were

recovered. All the arrested men and contraband have been referred to authorities for further investigation. Picture shows the four men arrested in Fintas area with the machine-guns and ammunition seized from them.

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Ethnic tensions in Yugoslavia

Explosion likely
By William Echikson

CAFES selling the local specialty, grilled Turkish sausages called *cevapcici*, have reopened in Pristina Yugoslavia. Children have returned to school. Albanians and Serbs even have started taking the ritual after-dinner Balkan stroll, the *korzo*, walking in groups along Mar-sala Tita Avenue.

But life is not normal here in the dusty capital of Yugoslavia's Kosovo Province. Antagonism between Serbians and Kosovo's predominant ethnic Albanian population has simmered for decades. It erupted March 23 after Serbian strongman Slobodan Milosevic railroaded through the Kosovo parliament a series of constitutional changes restricting the province's autonomy.

Serbs sang and danced in Belgrade, celebrating their hegemony over Kosovo. But thousands of Albanians took to the streets here and in a dozen towns in Kosovo Province. They were met by helmeted riot police, armoured personnel carriers, even Army tanks. The resulting violence was Yugoslavia's worst since World War II.

Explosion

As people begin resuming their lives, this large shadow of repression — along with evidence of continuing widespread human-rights abuses — lingers. Serb and Albanian alike believe that another explosion is only a matter of time.

The violence already has widened the gap between the country's conservative, Serb-dominated eastern half and its liberal western half consisting of Croatia and Slovenia. After the Serb victory in Kosovo, the Croats and Slovenes fear that the Serbs will try to impose their will on them, too.

In response to the criticisms, Serbs have begun boycotting Slovene goods, complaining that they have been misunderstood. The revolt, Serbs say, was an organized armed uprising, aided and abetted by the Albanian government in Tirane.

"These rioters, they were an organized force trying to destabilize our country," charges Budo Vojisic, the Serbian president of the Socialist Union of Kosovo. "They had guns, they wanted blood."

Few Albanians, indeed few of Yugoslavia's non-Serbs, believe this explanation. To them, the riots represented an outburst by a population reduced to second-class status with little to lose. Unemployment runs as high as 40 per cent in some parts of the province.

For more than two years, Serbs led by Milosevic have held massive demonstrations to stop alleged persecution of Kosovo's 200,000 Serbian minority by its 1.8 million Albanians. They demanded control over Kosovo's police and judiciary. When the changes actually came, the tinderbox caught fire.

"It was a popular, spontaneous revolt," says Ibrahim Rugova, the Albanian president of the Kosovo Writers' Association. "We've been under intense psychological and physical pressure, without the possibility of holding a rational discussion."

Both Albanian and Serb residents describe the riots as "a civil war." Against rock-throwing youth and unidentified sharpshooters, Army units surrounded towns and MiG fighter jets screamed low overhead. In the scenes reminiscent of the Palestinian intifada, defiant Albanian youth, their faces covered with bandannas, raced through narrow alleys filled with clouds of tear-gas. Automatic weapons clattered.

When it all was over, the official count numbered 24 dead, including two police officers. Witnesses, both Serbian and Albanian, put the total death toll at well over 100. Hundreds more were injured.

"Many Albanian families buried their dead secretly at night," says Milisav Milic, the longtime local Belgrade TV correspondent. "They wanted to avoid being marked as troublemakers."

Under the state of emergency, an armoured personnel carrier still stands guard in front of the Provincial Assembly. Helmeted, machine-gun-armed riot police stop bystanders on their korzo to check their identification and to tell large groups to disperse — it is illegal for more than three people to gather. At around 10 pm, everyone suddenly rushes inside — a curfew remains in effect between 10:30 pm and 5:30 a.m.

A nasty, less-legal, pacification process is taking place, with little concern for legal niceties. More than 30 prominent Albanians, including Azem Vllasi, a former party leader with a moderate reputation, are under arrest, charged with fomenting the troubles.

Charges

The authorities also admit detaining 1,023 Albanians on charges of "counterrevolution." They face up to 15 years in prison. Thousands of others — as many as 10,000 — face less severe charges.

Fear reigns. Few Albanians agree to interviews; even fewer allow quotations by name. The explanation is that in schools, factories, and offices, a classic hard-line communist tactic of weeding out "unreliables" has begun. Albanians call this process "differentiation."

"You are investigated, called to a meeting, and questioned about the events," says an Albanian schoolteacher in Podujevo, scene of some of the heaviest rioting. "If you don't answer it was a 'counterrevolution,' you are demoted or you lose your job."

The Socialist Alliance president, Vujisic, defends "differentiation" as a necessary procedure to "fight the enemy."

"We can't reveal all our cards," he says. "We will respond with all possible means to combat these well-organized, dangerous forces."

The show of muscle should suffice to pacify Kosovo — for a little while. Albanians see little possibility of making political gains by continuing bloodshed.

1989, The Christian Science Monitor

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1643 — Royalist plotters are arrested in London.
- 1793 — Reign of terror begins in French revolution.
- 1850 — Universal Suffrage in France is abolished.
- 1889 — Flood at Johnstown, Pennsylvania (USA), takes more than 2,000 lives.
- 1902 — Peace of Vereeniging ends Boer war, in which British casualties numbered 5,774 killed and 16,000 deaths from disease, against 4,000 Boers killed in action.
- 1910 — Union of South Africa is founded.
- 1924 — China recognises Soviet Union.
- 1937 — German fleet bombards Almeria, Spain, in reprisal for loyalist air attacks on its battleship Deutschland.
- 1954 — State of emergency is declared in Buganda, Uganda.
- 1961 — South Africa becomes independent republic outside British Commonwealth with C.R. Swart as president.
- 1962 — Adolf Eichmann, World War II Nazi Gestapo chief is executed by hanging after Israeli court rejects appeal.
- 1966 — Court in the Congo sentences former Premier Evariste Kimba and three others to death on charges of plotting to overthrow President Joseph Mobutu.
- 1970 — Earthquake hits Peru, leaving more than 66,000 dead, 20,000 missing and 200,000 injured.
- 1973 — US Senate votes to cut off all funds for US bombing operations in Cambodia.
- 1976 — Indonesia completes takeover of East Timor.
- 1987 — Shiite Muslim guerrillas fight Israeli-backed militiamen in Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone."
- 1988 — Bomb hidden in plastic bag explodes in crowded market in India's Punjab state, killing six people and injuring at least 32 others.

Political climate hots up in socialist strongholds

Walesa preaches self-help to dismantle Polish communism

By Andrew Tarnowski

LECH WALESA punches the air with both fists. "Get yourself organised," he shouts into the microphone. "Don't just rely on Lech Walesa."

At election rallies across Poland, Solidarity's 45-year-old leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner is preaching a message of self-help to a nation hesitantly emerging from nearly 50 years of authoritarian communist rule.

"Create new businesses. Organise associations and unions to defend them," shouts the man who nine years ago created the first free trade union in the communist world.

"If you want new political parties, first organise associations. This country must be ours, not the (Communist) Party's, not the security services'."

A curtain stirs in a white, five-storey building overlooking the City Park where the rally is held, briefly revealing a figure watching from the office of the Bydgoszcz provincial Communist Party chief.

Walesa's voice echoes over the crowded park towards the party building. "The Stalinist mon-

opoly took away our economic, social and political rights," he shouts. "Now is the time to get them back."

"You will be responsible if you fail. You have to want to want it," he tells the 5,000-strong crowd.

Solidarity leaders last month signed a national pact with Poland's reformist communist leadership. It re-legalised the independent union, introduced partly-free parliamentary elections and liberalised the right of association and private enterprise.

Walesa sees the election on June 4 and 18 — the first partly-free polls in Poland since 1947 — as a step in dismantling the communist power monopoly that has stifled popular initiative at every level of Polish life since World War II.

He is using the campaign trial to encourage grassroots democracy and stir up support for the re-legalised union as guarantor of Poland's progress towards freedom.

But the martial law crackdown of December 1981, which buried the agreement of August 1980 to create Solidarity, and the years of repression since then, are deeply imprinted on the awareness of Poles.

Solidarity's 1989 revival lacks the popular passion and mass support of 1980-81. Instead, people are cautious, even mistrustful of the new deal with the communists.

Walesa's campaign rallies dwarf rival communist gatherings but they are small and low-key compared with the Solidarity assemblies of 1980-81.

Both sides in the election race expect a big turnout and a big win for Solidarity among the seats it is allowed to contest — all 100 seats in the new senate and 33 per cent of the 460-member Sejm (Lower House).

Under pre-election pacts the communists and their allies will share 65 per cent of the Sejm seats. The party will have 38 per cent and the Peasant Party, Democratic Party and pro-government Catholic groups will have 16, six and five per cent each.

So the communists will not have a majority in the new parliament, a radical change in Polish national politics.

But Walesa is worried about

the grassroots, and Solidarity officials across the country say relatively few people are joining the union since last month's legislation.

They say 20,000 have joined in Bydgoszcz, a northern industrial city, compared with 280,000 in 1981, and 140-180,000 have joined in the south-western industrial province of Katowice compared with 1,400,000 in 1981.

In the southern City of Krakow, 330 Solidarity branches have been set up compared with 2,500 in 1980-81.

"Everyone is waiting for decisions before joining our union," Walesa says. "If you don't join the union you are acting against your own interests."

A strong union and a strong Solidarity showing in the elections were the only guarantee that the communists would stick to a pledge of fully democratic elections by 1993.

"If you get politically organised you can solve all our problems, so don't let them cheat you," Walesa said, simultaneously attacking opposition radicals who oppose deals with the communists and promote street violence.

"I also say down with the Stalinist communists," he said. "I say away with the communism, which means let's get organised. Let's make it: 'Away with the communists but on the basis of our programmes, not on the basis of demagoguery.'" (Reuter — Poland)

Reforms bloom in Hungary

By David Lewis

HUNGARY is basking in a season of reforms, drawing comparisons with the Prague spring of 1968 — but the difference lies in a much warmer political climate.

Today, Soviet tanks are leaving here, rather than arriving to cut short an era of reform as happened in Hungary's neighbour Czechoslovakia 21 years ago.

Czechoslovakia's reforms were ended by Moscow under Leonid Brezhnev, but the Soviet Union is led now by reformist Mikhail Gorbachev.

"I think we have the same slow-motion revolution as they (the Czechoslovaks) had at that time," top journalist Andras Sugar said after outgunning Prague's headline leadership by interviewing 1988 communist chief Alexander Dubcek for Hungarian television.

Difference

"With the enormous difference that we now have Gorbachev in Moscow while they had Brezhnev..." Dubcek's short-lived reform movement sought to create "socialism with a human face." Without using the same slogan, 1989 reformers in Hungary have the same aim.

"Man is not for socialism, socialism is for man," Imre Pozsgay, a reformist member of the Politburo, said recently.

Now in Budapest, as then in Prague, taboos are broken daily as the press sheds long-imposed fetters and looks searchingly at the country's past and its political and economic system.

Dubcek's reform movement was crushed in August 1968 by Warsaw Pact tanks invading to put down what Moscow said was a counter-revolution.

Last month, at the height of the Budapest spring, the Soviet Union began withdrawing 450 tanks from Hungary.

Hungarian and Soviet officials have pronounced as dead the so-called "Brezhnev doctrine" of limited sovereignty for Moscow's Warsaw Pact allies.

The Prague spring emerged from a generation conflict within the Czechoslovak Communist Party. Calls from younger, more liberal communists for more open debate within the party escalated to call for sweeping reforms. A party rebellion ended with general secretary Antonin Novotny being replaced by Dubcek in January 1968.

The immediate result was total liberalisation of the media by the official abolition of censorship, the

sprouting of independent groups and independent unions.

There were far-reaching plans for economic reforms to release market forces and allow private individuals to set up small businesses. Like most of the reforms, however, they did not have time to get further than the drawing-board.

In Budapest, a similar change in generation has spurred very similar reforms — though they have already gone much further than what was permitted 21 years ago in Prague.

Led since the Hungarian uprising in November 1956 by Janos Kadar, Hungary was already the East bloc's most liberal country when Karoly Grosz, a vigorous pragmatist of Gorbachev's generation, ousted Kadar as party leader in May 1988.

But the advent of Grosz — and especially of reformists like Pozsgay and Rendo Nyers who entered the Politburo at the same time — unleashed a new wave of change making Hungary, according to one diplomat, "the cutting edge of post communism."

In January, Hungary relaunched its stock exchange, allowing private individuals to invest and speculate in shares for the first time in four decades the right to form political parties.

The same month, party ideology chief Janos Bercz directly compared events in Budapest with the Prague spring when he returned from an official visit to Czechoslovakia.

"Czechoslovak comrades have reflex-like fears of a 1968-type development even today, although we are in the middle of one," he said.

In February, the party's central committee gave the green light to restoration of the multi-party system suppressed when the party took power in 1948. Hungary's first multi-party elections since 1948 are due by June 1990.

And just as Czechoslovakia in 1968 began examining the Stalinist 1950s, Hungary is now reassessing embarrassing periods of its past: especially the 1956 uprising which was itself crushed by Soviet tanks.

Newspapers are airing subjects and criticism of top politicians for which they would have been closed a year ago.

"The climate generally has warmed up, so it means we are unlikely to get very frosty weather politically, at least for the time being," one diplomat said. (Reuter — Budapest)



Significant arms-reduction offered

NATO welcomes Bush proposals

By Barry Schweld

WITH one stroke, US President George Bush has cut through years of American hand-wringing over Soviet troop levels.

But problems remain because it is still difficult to determine who has how many troops — and airplanes and artillery — and where they all are.

Even so, Bush won wide allied endorsement at the NATO summit meeting on Monday for his four-part conventional arms reduction proposal.

"I congratulate him on this far-sighted step with which he has once more impressively affirmed the United States' leadership," said West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl who has clashed bitterly with the United States on the issue of nuclear arms.

The main thrust of Bush's proposal calls for the 16 NATO allies to speed up the negotiations begun last March with the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact for reductions of conventional, non-nuclear, weapons in Europe.

He wants an agreement reached at the East-West talks in Vienna within six to 12 months, and implemented by 1993 at the latest.

This is faster than some of the plan's most enthusiastic supporters think is possible.

Former US arms control director Ralph Earle praised the initiative but called Bush's timetable "overly optimistic." Earle, who negotiated the 1979 Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty with the Soviet Union, predicted the Vienna talks would take at least two years to reach such an agreement.

For 15 difficult years, East and West debated a cutback of conventional forces in Central Europe and gave up in despair last year — unable to agree mostly on how many troops the Soviets had deployed.

Now NATO and the Warsaw Pact are working on a larger canvas — the vast expanse of Europe from the Atlantic Ocean to the Ural mountains in the Soviet Union.

Both sides have presented concrete proposals in the last three months, but Bush added troop and airplane cuts to the mix.

Bush proposed ceilings of 275,000 each in American and Soviet troop levels without any reference to problems of verification.

In another extraordinary turnaround, the president proposed reductions to ceilings of 5,440 each in combat aircraft and helicopters, which until now were excluded from The Vienna talks at the insistence of some NATO members.

Inclusion of the planes raises a problem for both sides in discerning which aircraft have attack roles and which are designed for defensive purposes.

A senior US official, asked about the switch, said: "Look, any time

you change a position in a negotiation you're going to be vulnerable to the accusation that the reasons you had for the earlier position are now undercut."

But, he said, the initial resistance to including planes and helicopters came about because the planes were designed to destroy Soviet tanks. However, with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev agreeing to accept equal ceilings of 20,000 tanks, the planes' mission was dwindling," he said. (AP — Brussels)

Bush vs Gorbachev

HERE are comparisons of the conventional forces levels proposed by NATO in March, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev this month and President George Bush on Wednesday:

Tanks

NATO — 20,000, with no one country having more than 12,000. Also, none could have more than 3,200 outside its own borders.

Gorbachev — 20,000, with no one country having more than 14,000. Also, none could have more than 4,500.

Bush — the NATO proposal.

Armoured personnel carriers

NATO — 33,500, no more than 16,800 for any country and no more than 6,000 outside its own borders.

Gorbachev — 28,000, with 18,000 as the ceiling for any country, and 7,500 as a limit outside the country.

Artillery

NATO — 16,500, with 10,000 as limit for any one country, and 1,700 as limit outside the country.

Gorbachev — 24,000, with 17,000 as limit for any one country, and 4,000 outside the country.

Troops

NATO — did not include.

Gorbachev — cut Soviet troops to 350,000 from estimated 625,000.

Bush — cut overall US troops in Europe 10 per cent, from 305,000 to 275,000. Soviet troops also would be reduced to 275,000.

Combat planes and attack helicopters

NATO and Gorbachev proposals did not set ceilings.

Bush — cut NATO and Warsaw Pact to 15 per cent below current NATO levels of 6,400 or to a new ceiling of about 5,440.

White power centre in a state of flux

Blacks move into Johannesburg

By William Maclean

A SHIFTING racial mix is slowly changing the character of Johannesburg, South Africa's business and mining capital and the engine room of white power.

The number of black people working and living in Johannesburg, a metropolis built on staggering gold wealth, has risen markedly in recent years, according to residents.

City authorities who for decades barred most blacks from living here and strictly controlled the numbers working in the city have over the past few years turned a blind eye to a non-white influx.

"All of a sudden the city has an African character," Eric Mafuna, director of the consumer research marketing company, said in a telephone interview.

"When whites see large numbers descend on them they feel they want to move out to the suburbs...property is standing vacant," he said.

Some say the mostly-illegal influx, sparked off by a watering down of national restrictions on where non-whites can live and work, will gradually bring a change in attitudes in a society that has been engineered to minimise contact between the races.

There is little sign of that happening.

Commentators say more blacks are taking white-collar jobs, but work for most appears overwhelmingly menial.

"It's very black in town now," said 59-year-old carpenter Patrick McCoy. "Everyone (whites) used to shop in the centre. Now they go to the suburbs."

The inner city, by day a car-choked meeting place for all races, becomes a ghost town after dark. Most whites go home to their suburbs. Most blacks go back to overcrowded townships whose population dwarfs the 870,000 population of Johannesburg.

Non-whites who have moved into accommodation vacated by whites in the Central Business District, a concrete canyon of mostly ageing office towers, tend to stay home for fear of crime or for lack of money for leisure pursuits.

"What we are seeing is urbanisation in an African context," said Mafuna. "There is white flight, but for blacks what is happening is that the city is being given to ordinary people."

Police, deployed in force in the townships, rarely patrol the city centre, and whites repeatedly voice fears about black crime. Many use strong language that concedes nothing to international anti-apartheid opinion.

"We (whites) are prisoners in our own city," complained a 43-year-old taxi driver of Portuguese descent.

"A black is born in this country every 26 seconds...in 20 years from now where is the food going to come from if they breed like that?" Sue, a 30-year-old coloured (mixed race) executive, carries a pistol in her handbag and avoids walking in the Central Business District where she lives.

"You'll find me in my apartment or the basement car park. A few years ago we would go out but now that's impossible," she said.

Anxieties about law and order become apparent in the lush suburbs that serve as a kind of sanctuary for wealthy whites, who in Johannesburg are largely of British descent. White Dutch-descended Afrikaners are a minority here.

In outer suburbs with names like Sandringham and Melrose, six feet (two metres) high concrete walls encircle ranch-style houses and rolling lawns lined with trees. Typically a Mercedes or BMW plus a Japanese jeep are parked outside.

One such suburb, Atholl, is five minutes' drive from the battered tin shacks of Alexandra, a Third World black shanty town where children in ragged clothes play in mud alleys.

The contrasts can verge on the surreal. One afternoon earlier this month, white couples in jogging outfits drilled Alsatians and Doberman pinschers on a leafy suburban sports field under instruction from a guard dog trainer.

A few streets away, hundreds of black youths paraded to a cemetery for the funeral of murdered human rights campaigner David Webster, a white.

(Reuter — Johannesburg)

Sudan: no peace prospects in sight

By Hamza Hendawi

PROSPECTS have faded for an early end to the Civil War casting a long, dark shadow over Sudan, Africa's largest country.

On the battlefield, government troops from the Muslim north fight rebels in the Christian and Animist south. But the six-year-old conflict has exacted a far greater toll away from the immediate fighting.

It compounded a famine which killed several hundred thousand people in south Sudan last year and has helped to plunge the economy into deep crisis.

Hopes of ending the war rose in March when the government finally adopted a peace pact agreed by the rebels and one of the parties in the ruling coalition.

But, two months later, the two sides appear to be as far apart as ever.

Complex

Diplomats and Sudanese officials point to a tangle of complex ethnic and religious differences underlying the conflict and a deep sense of mistrust on both sides.

The rebels, fighting what they regard as domination by the Muslim north, oppose the imposition of Islamic Sharia law in Sudan. They demand secular laws to put Sudan's many ethnic and religious groups on an equal footing.

Both sides say they want peace. Each accuses the other of failing to reciprocate peace initiatives.

The rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), which

has notched up a string of victories on the battlefield, declared a unilateral one-month ceasefire on May 1.

But Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi said in an interview with Reuters last week there could be no jointly-agreed ceasefire unless the rebels first agreed to talks on the terms of the truce.

He said his two-month-old coalition government was committed to the pursuit of a peaceful settlement, but he added: "If there is no peace, we will close that door and take up defence."

This week, a ministerial committee set up in March to handle contacts with the Ethiopian-backed rebels decided not to send any more envoys to SPLA officials.

It accused the SPLA of dragging its feet on setting a date for talks to discuss implementing a November 16 accord signed by SPLA chief John Garang and Mohammed Osman Al-Mirghani, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, a member of the ruling coalition.

Mahdi, in his interview, said the rebels suffered from internal divisions which were often reflected in contradictory pronouncements on peace prospects.

Diplomats agreed. They blamed the tribal structure of the SPLA, which has an estimated 40,000 fighters, and differences over what form a final settlement should take.

They said the victories by the rebels, who effectively took control of the area east of the White Nile and south of the river Sobat, strengthened the hand of a faction calling for the secession of south Sudan.

(Reuter — Khartoum)

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Benazir opts for austerity in budget

ISLAMABAD, May 30, (Reuters): Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was addressing a symposium in one of Islamabad's smartest hotels last week when the lights went out.

For five minutes, the prime minister waited in the dark to finish telling her audience of diplomats and businessmen why foreign companies should invest in Pakistan.

Bhutto got off lightly. As temperatures soar to mid-summer heights, many of the country's 104 million people are suffering power cuts lasting several hours a day.

The incident highlights the scale of the task facing Benazir as she approaches her first full budget this week.

Lack of reliable electricity generating capacity — caused by a water shortage in the hydroelectric reservoirs — is only one of the country's problems.

Three-quarters of the people are illiterate, population is skyrocketing at more than three per cent a year while infant mortality is among the highest in Asia.

The national infrastructure, much of it inherited on independence from Britain 42 years ago, is creaking.

Major investment is needed for roads, schools and hospitals. Benazir, 35, the first woman leader of a Muslim nation, was elected last November partly on a promise of bettering the lot of the poor.

Yet in her first budget, to be presented to parliament this week, she opts for austerity, following an adjustment programme drawn up by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Benazir announced last week that Rs 56 billion would be spent on development, compared with 50 billion the previous year. With the devaluation of the rupee over the past 12 months, both figures are worth around \$2.7 billion.

"It is a very small figure by any standards," a senior foreign economist said.

"Fifty-six billion is the minimum they can get by with and maintain the pace of development," a diplomat said. "It barely keeps pace with inflation."

Benazir told a meeting of top officials last week that 1989/90 would be a "year of austerity." Non-development spending would be slashed, she said.

In an unprecedented step, the government has taken front-page advertisements in national newspapers, warning that sacrifices are necessary to ensure a bright future.

"I reckon she decided to prepare people for an austerity budget, and then hit them with a much milder one," the diplomat said. "They'll do what they have to meet the IMF conditions, but won't go any further."

Direct flights planned

NICOSIA, Cyprus, May 30, (AP): Iran and Tanzania have agreed to start direct flights between Tehran and Dar Es Salaam, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported today.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said the agreement followed a meeting between visiting Tanzanian Minister of Economic Collaboration, Ameneh Salom Ali, and Iran's acting Minister of Commerce Mojtaba Khosrow-Taj.

But the report did not say when the flights would start.

The two countries are also studying plans to establish direct shipping lines aimed at boosting joint trade, IRNA reported.

The agency said that lack of direct transportation facilities was a major obstacle in expanding bilateral commercial ties.

Businessmen back privatisation move

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia, May 30, (AP): Leading Arab businessmen today focused on privatisation at a conference with 1,500 participants from the six Gulf Co-operation Council nations.

"This is the decade of privatisation. Many governments around the globe are turning over their state-owned industries to the private sector," said Abdullah Dabbagh, secretary-general of the Council of Saudi Chambers of Commerce, told the businessmen's conference.

The gathering of businessmen and officials from the six Gulf Co-operation Council nations, held every two years,

provides a forum where leading traders can debate and air future plans with senior government officials. The GCC groups Saudi Arabia with Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

The number of private companies in Saudi Arabia rose from 78,000 in 1979 to 283,700 in 1986, according to official statistics.

The Jeddah-based Arab News said businessmen have proposed that several Saudi public sector companies be privatised, among them the Saudia airline, Petromin, the government agency for

marketing petroleum products, and Saudi Telecom.

But a study by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the main oil-producing Eastern Province cautioned that the government should carry out studies, train manpower and retain a large equity share in such corporations.

The Saudi government has been asking the private sector to employ more Saudi nationals. According to one study, only 19 per cent of private company employees were local personnel in 1986 and the remainder expatriates.

Ismael Abu Dawood, chairman of the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said the private sector was willing to absorb the Saudi manpower but called for "full understanding and interpretation of the job requirements."

According to a conference working paper Saudi manpower is expected to increase to around 500,000 by the time the current five-year economic and social development plan ends next year, the Arab News said.

In 1987, the private sector employed 33,600 Saudis, or 80 per cent of all those available.

Saudi Arabia has a population of around 12 million, with an expatriate labour force of 3 million who arrived during the 1970s oil boom.

The Saudi workforce is estimated at around 3 million who mainly work in government departments and the public sector. There are only 250,000 unskilled labourers in the kingdom.

Prince Majid Bin Abdel-Aziz, governor of the Makkah region in the kingdom's Red Sea-side Western Province, opened the conference with a call for merging small units into bigger industries in order to boost output and quality.

Move to foster trust in debt-ridden economy

Bankers welcome exchange rate rules

AMMAN, May 30, (Reuters): Bankers and economists have cautiously welcomed the return of a flexible exchange rate as a move to foster trust in Jordan's debt-ridden economy.

But they said success would hinge on whether the Central Bank has enough foreign currency to manage the market.

"This is a step in the right direction," economist Riad Al Khouri said today. "But the Central Bank has to take other complementary moves like liberalising foreign exchange laws to regain people's trust in the country."

Central Bank Governor Mohammed Said Al Nabulsi announced yesterday that he was linking the dinar once again to a trade-based basket of foreign currencies.

The bank would abandon its rigid exchange rate — frozen at 540 fils to the dollar on February 8 after the dinar had lost more than 40 per cent of its dollar value in the previous year — and resume setting the rates daily, he said.

There are 1,000 fils to the

dinar, which was set at 570 fils to the dollar yesterday. On the flourishing black market the dollar was fetching 630 fils today, compared with 623 fils yesterday.

Nabulsi said the Central Bank would intervene in the market when necessary and would supply foreign exchange to banks to meet recognised needs. Priority would be given to students abroad and to importers of food and industrial supplies.

"We are optimistic that the Central Bank has some hard currency reserves which could be spared for our use," said a banker. "Stability will only be achieved if the Central Bank physically intervenes in the market."

Another banker struck a pessimistic note. "The Central Bank would need money to back the daily rates and the operations of banks," she said. "Whatever they have now is not enough as they face other pressing priorities like settling official imports and repaying government debts."

But bankers and economists

generally expect Arab countries to offer financial support to Jordan after price riots in April in which 11 people were killed.

"What can restore confidence is more Arab aid and adherence to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) economic reforms package," economist Fahd Al Fanek told Reuters.

Nabulsi, who headed the Central Bank from 1973 to 1985 and was reappointed on May 20 after a post-riot government shake-up, said the basic aim of Jordan's agreement with the IMF was to allow the country to reschedule most of its foreign debt of \$8.1 billion.

Arab donors have announced no new aid for Jordan since a 10-year pact to provide \$1.25 billion a year expired last July. Actual aid fell far short of that.

A chief dealer at a local bank welcomed Nabulsi's decision to fix the exchange rates daily.

"It was so wrong to maintain a rigid exchange rate of the dinar for such a long time," he said. "No one can determine what the realistic rate of the dinar should be."

Britain expresses concern over ADB

ABUJA, Nigeria, May 30, (Reuters): Britain and Japan and other non-African members of the African Development Bank (ADB), the continent's leading financing institution, expressed concern today at the way the agency handled some of its affairs.

Addressing the annual meeting and 25th anniversary celebrations of the bank, which is owned by 50 African states and 25 other countries, they cited poor quality project lending, administrative shortcomings and mounting arrears on loans and subscriptions.

Christopher Patten, Britain's Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, summed up the concerns of several delegates when he compared the bank to a traditional three-legged African stool.

"Its stability depends on three aspects — financial soundness, administrative efficiency and the quality of operations... the most important leg is the quality of operations," he said.

"Evaluation reports reveal evidence of too many badly designed or inadequately supervised projects. The quality of proposals put to the board of directors continues in our judgement to be variable."

The Abidjan-based bank, flush with record capital of \$22 billion has come under criticism in particular from non-African directors for loans considered to have been badly prepared, bank sources said.

These included an \$80-million loan to Ivory Coast and a \$100-million loan to Zaire to buy petroleum.

Representatives of Japan, South Korea and Finland also questioned the quality of project loans and, like Patten, expressed concern over loan and subscription arrears.

"Special consideration should be given to minimising the arrears of ADB loans," a paper presented by the Japanese delegation said.

Taina Teravainen of Finland said that during the last two years, payment arrears of more than nine months have tripled, but no figures were available.



Bank of Japan Governor Satoshi Sumita tells a press conference that he expects Japan's 0.75 percentage point increase in its key interest rate to 3.25 per cent annum, the first hike in Tokyo in the long term.

Stronger dollar pushes up inflation Japan to raise rate

TOKYO, May 30, (Reuters): Japan said today it will raise its key interest rate for the first time in more than nine years, but dealers warned it may have to act again soon if it wants to rein in the surging dollar.

"It's very hard for the dollar to go down. There is nothing to hurt it at the moment," said Takanori Makita, a currency dealer at the Nippon Credit Bank.

The dollar barely budged after news that the Bank of Japan will raise its discount rate by three quarters of a percentage point, to 3.25 per cent, effective May 31.

The increase in the rate the central bank charges on loans to commercial banks was the first since March 1980.

The dollar has defied heavy selling by major nations and risen sharply in recent weeks as high US interest rates have encouraged investors world-wide to put money into the United States.

The currency is trading at around its highest level in more than 18 months against the Japanese yen and in 2-1/2 years against the West German mark.

It closed steady here today at 143.10 yen and 2.0095 marks, despite sales of almost \$1 billion by the Bank of Japan.

The currency's resilience has prompted speculation that other central banks will follow Japan's move with interest rate actions of their own to stabilise exchange rates.

Some dealers said they expect the West German Bundesbank to raise rates and the US Federal Reserve to ease credit this week in a co-ordinated effort to curb the dollar's rise.

Major nations have expressed concern that the stronger dollar will block efforts to put world trade back in better balance by making US exports less competitive on world markets.

The stronger dollar and rising oil prices have pushed up inflation in Japan and helped convince the Central Bank that a rate increase was needed to cool off the economy.

Sterling sharply lower

Markets await rate decision

LONDON, May 30, (Reuters): The pound sterling ended sharply lower because of investors' jitters about the health of Britain's economy where inflation is running at a seven-year high of eight per cent.

The pound closed nearly a full point down on its trade-weighted index to 92.5 and was over three cents weaker against the dollar compared with last Friday.

"The pound trades entirely on sentiment and sentiment is working its way to being desperately bearish," said David Deakin, a manager at Nikko Bank.

Its weakness hit share prices on London's stock exchange which closed generally lower.

The relentless surge of the dollar and sagging confidence in

the British economy were the main market factors depressing the pound, dealers said.

The latest report by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) showed British manufacturing industry demand was less buoyant than last year.

Commercial banks quickly followed suit but this failed to halt the flow of funds from the pound.

Sterling closed today at \$1.5575 compared to Friday's close of \$1.5900. British currency markets were closed yesterday for a national holiday.

Currency dealers were divided on whether West Germany's Bundesbank would raise key interest rates at a regular policy

meeting on Thursday.

Japan raised its discount rate three quarters of a percentage point today to 3.25 per cent, effective tomorrow, to defend the yen but the move had been long expected and had little effect, dealers said. It was the first increase in nine years in the rate at which the Bank of Japan lends to commercial banks.

Concerted intervention early today by six West European central banks had only a limited effect on trading, but did inject a note of caution, dealers said.

But business was thin as investors waited to see if West Germany would raise its interest rates later in the week to support a flagging mark.

US defends trade policy

Controversial decision

PARIS, May 30, (Reuters): The United States defended its international trade policy today, rebutting mounting criticism of its decision to accuse Japan, India and Brazil of conducting unfair practices.

Chief US trade negotiator Carla Hills said a controversial decision taken last week under the "super-301" provision of the 1988 US trade act was not designed to subvert the existing framework of multilateral trade negotiations.

"America is not trying to open markets only for itself, but rather to expand the multilateral trading system," Hills told reporters on the eve of a two-day meeting of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The annual talks of trade and economy ministers from the 24-nation OECD starting tomorrow are taking place in the shadow of a persistently strong dollar and concern interest rate rises in Europe and Japan may not be enough to push it down.

One senior OECD official said it was crucial to restore confidence in international co-operation on monetary and trade matters after apparent disarray in recent weeks over the surge of the dollar.

But talk in preparatory meetings today was

dominated by last Thursday's decision by Washington to cite Japan — a member of the OECD — and non-members Brazil and India as conducting unfair trading practices.

Four European Community countries, Italy, Greece, Portugal and Spain, were put on a special "watch list" because of US concerns about their handling of so-called intellectual property such as copyrights and patents.

Hills, briefing reporters after a first meeting with Japanese Trade Minister Hiroshi Mitsuoka, defended the right of the United States to use all tools at its disposal to open up world markets to trade.

The super 301 clause of the trade act requires Hills as US Trade Representative to identify countries in which there are barriers to US trade and to carry out bilateral negotiations with the nations named. Failure to reach agreement on removing those barriers could eventually lead to retaliation.

The tactic has sparked strong criticism in Western Europe and Japan, with Mitsuoka last week flatly rejecting negotiations under the super 301 provision, which he said "could undermine the existing multilateral free trade system."

LYCEE FRANCAIS DE KOWEIT (Ecole privée étrangère en constitution) ouvrira ses portes pour l'année scolaire 1989-90 et accueillera tous les enfants, de la Maternelle à la terminale (Préparation au baccalauréat).

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ADDITIONAL

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1990

LONDON (Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	INCHCAPE	283/0
ABBEY LIFE	268/0	JAGUAR	346.0
ADT LTD	185/0	KINGFISHER	313/0
ALD LTD	440.0	LADROCK	594/0
AMSTRAD	98.0	LAND SECS	575.5
ARRELL GP	205/0	LAPORTE	447/0
ASDA GP	166.0	LASMO	461/0
BAA	361.0	LEGAL-GEN	306.0
BTR	371.0	LOWRHO	270/0
BAT INDS	567.0	LUCAS IND	630/0
BARCLAYS	448.0	MAGNET	280.0
BASS	948/0	MARKS+SP	187/0
BEAZER	197.0	MAXWELL C	194.0
BECHAMS	624/0	MS GROUP	204.0
BEISFORD	152/0	NECCA LEI	168/0
BICC PLC	502/0	NEPC	574/0
BLUE ARRU	97.75	NTN FOODS	312/0
BLUE CIRC	558/0	P & O DFD	666/0
BOC GP	482/0	PEARSON	707/0
BOOTS CO	287/0	PILKINGTON	238.0
BR INDS	38.00	POLLEY PEC	295/0
BR COMM	184/0	RACAL ELC	495.0
BR AIRWAY	202/2	RACAL TEL	455.0
BR AEROSP	665.0	RANK HVIS	447/0
BR GAS RG	174.0	RANK ORG	970/0
BR LAND	363/0	ROCKT+CO	135/0
B.P.	288/0	REDLAND	587/0
B.P. FP	287/0	REED	384.0
BR FEEL	98/0	RMC GRP	758.0
BR TELCON	258/0	RTZ CORP	825.0
BURNHAM OL	596/0	RTZ CORP	825.0
BURTON	216.0	ROTHMAN B	532/0
CABLEVIEW	556/0	ROYAL INS	398.0
CADBURYS	367.0	SAATCHI	318/0
CALOR GRP	396/4	SAINSBURY	239/0
CRITN COM	873.0	SCOT-NEW	297/0
COATS VTY	167.0	SEARS	119.0
COOKSONS	332/0	SEDEWICK	263.0
COURTAUD	343.0	SHELL	411.0
DALGETT	372/0	SIEBE	516.0
DIXONS	148/0	SLOUGH ES	312/0
ENG CHINA	485.0	STD CHART	524/0
ENTER OIL	549.0	STV	366/0
FKI BABCK	162.0	STOREHSE	173.0
FERRANTI	102/0	SUN ALIA	107.0
FISONS	298/0	SUN LIFE	910/0
GATEWAY	203.0	TARMAC	331/0
GEN ACCIO	968.0	TATELYE	263/0
GEN ELEC	238/0	TAYLOR WOOD	644.0
GLAND	382/0	TI GROUP	445.0
GRAMADA	347/0	TRAF HSE	370/0
GLOBE	176.5	TSS	106.0
GLYVED	302.0	T + N	229.0
GRAND RYL	204/0	TRUSTEE	321/0
GWIL	389.5	ULTRAMAR	305.0
GWINESS	485.0	UNILEVER	555.0
HAWESON A	785/0	UNION	433.0
HANSON	202/0	WELLCOME	454/0
HARRISON	175.0	WINTRO IN	261.0
HUKER STD	697/0	WILLIAMS	261.0
HILLSDOWN	270/0	WILLIS FB	230.0
IMI	232/0	WINPEY GE	283.0

LONDON (Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALICE	929/0	932/0
600 GROUP	132/0	132/0
A.AMER TS	450/0	450/0
A.B.ELECT	380/0	378/0
A.S.W.HLD	285/0	285/0
AAS KENT	109/0	109/0
AARHOLD	408/0	408/0
AARNSON	105/0	105/0
ADDISON	45/0	45/0
ADJUST	180/0	180/0
ALEX WRNK	203/0	203/0
ALEXON	390/0	391/0
ALLD COLL	143/0	143/0
ALLD IR B	305/0	306/0
ALLD PART	72/4	73/0
ALLIANCE	051/0	052/0
AMER DAY	50/4	50/4
AMER	485/0	484/0
AMER TST	148/2	148/0
AMERSHAM	490/0	492/0
AMT HLTHC	359/0	359/0
ANGLIA SC	276/0	275/0
ANGLIA TV	288/0	287/0
ANSBACHER	77/0	76/0
APPLYEAR	179/0	180/0
APV PLC	152/0	152/0
ASHLEY LA	105/0	105/0
AUS REE A	235/0	234/0
AUST REED	383/0	380/0
AUTO SECS	290/0	290/0
AVESCO	147/0	148/0
AVIS EUR	429/0	430/0
AVON RUBB	609/0	607/0
B.EWILL	255/0	256/0
BAILL JAP	517/0	518/0
BAILL SHI	95/4	96/0
BALD (H)	244/0	243/0
BANK IRE	292/0	292/0
BAKER IT	90/4	90/0
BARDON GP	210/0	210/0
BARDON DEV	185/0	183/0
BAYNES C	36/0	37/0
BBA GROUP	202/0	202/0
BEAR BRND	12/0	12/2
BEATTIE J	145/0	145/0
BELHAVEN	53/4	54/0
BELWAY	251/0	251/0
BEMOSE	242/0	241/0
BENLOX HD	64/0	65/0
BERKELEY	215/0	214/0
BH GROUP	133/0	133/0
BK OF SCO	93/0	93/0
BLACK LE 2	10/2	10/0
BK GROUP	483/0	483/0
BNETT +P	88/0	89/0
BOASE MAS	375/0	372/0
BODDINGST	162/0	163/0
BODY SHOP	575/0	573/0
BOOTH HEIR	479/0	483/0
BORTHWICK	40/0	40/0
BR ARROW	115/0	115/0

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-GR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1765.3	1778.8	1778.8	1707.9
FT 500 SHR	1218.2	1218.7	1218.7	1182.7
FT ALL SHR	98.99	1103.81	3.81	1076.15
FT GOV SEC	85.88	86.20	86.20	87.30
FT GOLD	172.6	171.2	171.2	161.9
FT MINES F	615.15	617.49	617.49	565.31
FT OIL	2028.1	2023.8	2023.8	1725.4
FT WLD DLR	142.89	141.12	141.12	139.21
FT WLD STG	133.32	133.18	133.18	115.30
FT WLD LOC	136.50	135.97	135.97	129.77

London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS REMAIN EASIER IN QUIET LATE TRADING

EASIER AND NEAR THE DAY'S LOWS, AFTER WALL STREET GAVE UP ITS EARLY MOIST GAINS, DEALERS SAID.

THE MARKET REMAINS NERVOUS OF STERLING'S WEAKNESS RELATIVE TO A STRONG DOLLAR AND INDICATIONS OF A SLOWDOWN IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, FOLLOWING THE LATEST CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRY (CBI) SURVEY WHICH SAID THAT TOTAL DEMAND IN U.K. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY CONTINUES TO BE LESS BUOYANT THAN IN 1988.

BY 1448 GMT THE FTSE INDEX WAS 6.9 POINTS DOWN AT 2,133.4, HAVING TOUCHED A LOW OF 2,129.6 EARLIER.

THE POINT CLOSED WITH A NINE BASIS POINT LOSS ON THE DAY TO A TRADE WEIGHTED 92.5, SHOWING REVEALED WEAKNESS AGAINST THAT MARK AS WELL AS A STRONG DOLLAR, WHICH POSTED GAINS DESPITE NEWS OF A WIDELY ANTICIPATED 3/4 POINT RISE IN JAPAN'S DISCOUNT RATE TO 3.25 PCT.

DEALERS SAID THE MARKET IS CONCERNED THAT STERLING FACES FURTHER DECLINES IF THE WEST GERMAN BUNDESBANK DECIDES TO RAISE ITS INTEREST RATES ON THURSDAY, IN RESPONSE TO CONTINUING DOLLAR STRENGTH.

THE KEY THREE MONTH INTERBANK STERLING RATE WAS 3/16 POINT UP AT 14-1/16 14 PCT.

London Gold

LONDON, MAY 30, REUTER - GOLD BULLION TRADING REMAINED DULL THIS AFTERNOON, WITH THE METAL HOLDING IN A NARROW RANGE IN LINE WITH NEW YORK, AND PRICES CLOSED QUIETLY LOWER.

SPOT GOLD FINISHED AT 362.50/363.00 DLR AN OUNCE, THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY'S ONE DLR RANGE. THIS WAS JUST 30 CENTS DOWN FROM THE OPENING BUT 1.50 DLR BELOW PRE-WEEKEND LEVELS.

DEALERS SAID THE FIRMER DOLLAR WEIGHED ON THE MARKET TODAY CAUSING PRICES TO BE MARKED LOWER FROM THE OUTSET. BUT IN THE ABSENCE OF FRESH INCENTIVES, AND WITH GOLD IN A NEUTRAL TECHNICAL PATTERN, SUBSEQUENT MOVES WERE EXTREMELY LIMITED.

London Money Market

LONDON, MAY 30, REUTER - BRITISH INTEREST RATES CREEPT HIGHER THROUGHOUT THE DAY IN A MONEY MARKET MADE NERVOUS BY STERLING'S CONTINUED FALL TO END WITH GAINS OF 3/16 SINCE LAST FRIDAY'S CLOSE, TRADERS SAID.

ALTHOUGH THE BENCHMARK THREE MONTH INTERBANK RATES WAS TRADING AT 14-1/16 14 PCT -- CONFORMABLY REFLECTING BASE RATES OF 14 PCT -- STERLING'S CONTINUED DEPRECIATION IN THE CURRENCY MARKET INCREASED THE LIKELIHOOD OF ANOTHER BASE RATE HIKE, THEY SAID.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FRF	OPG
1.5660/70	1.5670/80	2.0080/90	6.8005/35	NOON
2.0048/0128	3.141/155	3.1450/80	10.6550/690	FIX
6.7955/8073	2.7491/7524	338.4/339.06	29.45/61	FIX
2.2630	3.5465	87.35/44	25.78/81	CLSE
1.03506	0.66045	112.705	33.26	CLSE
1.25561	0.782214	2.07995	7.04564	CLSE
143.15/25	224.15/50	2.46476	8.33599	CLSE
SDR RATE	29/05/1989	OTHERS	30/05/1989	NOON

BR ASSETS	79/0	79/0	HEPMORTH	292/0	291/0	ROCKFORT	95/0	96
BR DREDGE	183/0	181/0	NESTAIR	244/0	245/0	ROCKWAVE	62/0	63
BR VITA	259/0	258/0	HEYWOOD W	279/0	280/0	ROTHSCHLD	204/0	205
BRENT CHE	141/0	140/0	HICKS IN	268/0	268/0	ROTORK	159/0	159
BRENT WKR	398/0	397/0	HIGGS HIL	366/0	367/0	RUGBY GRP	214/4	214
BRIDON	199/0	199/0	HMBRO CTY	39/0	39/0	RUTLAND T	44/4	45
BRITAIN SE	170/0	170/0	HMBRO 20P	209/0	208/0	SAGA GRP	299/0	300
BRITANNIC	400/0	399/0	HOLMES PR	86/0	86/0	SALE TLHY	201/0	201
BROWN SHI	348/0	343/0	HOLMES GP	154/0	154/0	SALVESEN	140/0	140
BRYANT GP	103/0	103/0	HOPKINS	63/0	63/0	SAVILLE G	59/0	60
BSS INTL	74/4	75/0	HRDY OEGS	131/0	131/0	SCOT MORT	126/4	126
BSR INTL	61/0	60/0	HTV GROUP	114/0	113/0	SCOT AN I	112/2	112
BUDGENS	112/0	110/0	ICE FZ FD	346/0	345/0	SCY NAT I	51/0	51
BULLOUGH	193/0	192/0	INDOPLD W	15/0	15/0	SCY NAT I	96/4	96
BURTON PHN	168/0	167/0	INDOCP LLC	32/0	32/0	SECS TST	124/4	124
CAIRD GRP	505/0	500/0	INT.BU.CH	144/0	145/0	SELCIV PT	17/0	17
CALENDONIA	375/0	375/0	INT.CITY	57/0	58/0	SEMA GRP	321/0	321
CAMB ELEC	217/0	218/0	JWSNSHFR	156/4	57/0	SINDWICK	142/0	143
CANFORD E	273/0	275/0	JS HLDGS	150/0	150/0	SHERATON S	87/0	87
CANNING W	264/0	264/0	KALAMAZOO	26/4	27/0	SHIRE INV	252/0	252
CANNON ST	227/0	227/0	KALON GRP	40/0	40/0	SIMON ENG	396/0	397
CAP.RADIO	844/0	842/0	KELT ENGY	60/0	60/0	SINGER&F	72/0	73
CARDON	345/4	34/0	KETSON	13/4	13/0	SHITH D	300/0	301
CARLCO EN	154/0	155/0	KLMRT CHR	146/0	146/0	SOUND DIF	22/0	22
CAULDON	15/0	15/0	KLMRT SML	155/4	155/0	SPRNG RAM	126/0	126
CENTL TV	775/0	776/0	KLMRT O'S	188/0	188/0	SPR-SARC	237/0	237
CHAM PHRR	213/0	213/0	KLVK SAVE	469/0	470/0	ST.ANDREW	218/0	218
CHARTERNA	22/0	22/0	KWIK-FIT	107/0	108/0	ST.MOVEN	39/0	39
CHLORIDE	41/0	41/0	LAING 'A'	356/0	356/0	STAKES	142/0	141
CHRISTIES	270/0	270/0	LAING ORD	356/0	356/0	STEELEY	462/0	461
CI GROUP	56/0	56/0	LAING PRP	514/0	513/0	STEND PR	211/0	210
CLAYFORM	304/0	300/0	LAIRD GRP	276/0	277/0	STODDARD	45/0	45
CNTRL SEC	61/4	62/0	LAWRENCE W	147/0	147/0	STORNGUARD	20/4	20
CNTRY OIL	188/0	188/0	LDN & MET	182/0	182/0	STURGE HD	233/0	232
COALITE	452/0	450/0	LDN ATLAN	313/0	314/0	T.I.P.-U	165/0	166
COATES BR	276/0	277/0	LDN INTL	218/0	220/0	TELEMETEX	40/0	40
COLOROLL	157/0	157/0	LDN UTD	48/0	49/0	TEMPLE BA	249/0	250
CONNELLS	229/0	230/0	LDNREIN I	83/0	84/0	THAMES TV	485/0	485
COOPER F	147/0	147/0	LEISURE I	63/0	63/0	THORNTONS	148/0	148
COSTAIN	359/0	358/0	LEP GROUP	166/0	166/0	THROUGHTN	90/0	90
COURTS FR	194/0	195/0	LEX SERV	376/0	384/0	TIE RACK	72/0	72
COMIE (T)	135/0	136/0	LIFE SCIE	78/0	78/0	TILBURY	529/0	525
CRH	190/0	190/0	LILLEY FJ	72/0	72/0	TIME PROD	240/0	240
CRODA INT	197/0	197/0	LIT	135/0	135/0	TIPPOCK	493/0	493
CRYSTALAT	133/0	133/0	LLOYD THP	220/0	220/0	TOMKINS F	252/0	252
CTRY PROP	228/0	228/0	LOGICA	363/0	363/0	TOTAL	126/0	125
DARES EST	31/2	31/0	LOVELL HD	265/0	266/0	TOZER K&M	110/4	110
DAVIS GDO	164/0	165/0	LOW (WM)	274/0	273/0	TR CITY	92/0	92
DAVY CORP	252/0	252/0	LOWBOONER	217/0	218/0	TR PACIFIC	86/0	86
DANSON GP	165/0	168/0	M&G GROUP	329/0	329/0	TR PROPTY	61/0	61
DELTA GRP	330/0	331/0	M.C.PACIF	237/0	238/0	TR TRSTEE	153/0	153
DEVENISH	306/0	305/0	MAGFARLNEE	248/0	247/0	TRIMCO	40/4	40
DEMIRST	43/4	43/0	MAJEDIE	243/0	243/0	TRIPLEX	165/0	165
DIPLOMA	277/0	227/0	MAJEDIE	243/0	243/0	TRITON ER	183/0	184
DOBBSON PK	97/4	97/4	MARLEY	157/0	156/0	TRSPRT DV	243/4	244
DONPAS GR	355/0	356/0	HANDERS	215/0	216/0	TV SH HD	90/0	90
DONNINGEN	80/0	80/0	HARLEY	157/0	156/0	TV ENTER	313/0	312
DOWTY GRP	282/0	282/0	HAUNDERS	115/0	116/0	U-BORLAND	73/0	73
DRAYTON FE	424/0	423/0	MCKECHNIE	307/0	306/0	U-BRD ST	38/4	39
DRAYTON C	539/0	538/0	MEMEC	245/0	245/0	U-BROADWL	215/0	215
DRG	487/0	486/0	MEMEC	245/0	245/0	U-CITYVSM	173/0	173
DUKEHIST	76/0	76/0	MEMEC	245/0	245/0	U-CLUFF	78/0	79
DUNDEE LD	330/0	330/0	HERCH. TST	180/4	180/4	U-DEANBOS	209/0	208
DUNHILL	322/0	322/0	HERLIN IN	98/0	98/0	U-DEWEY W	119/0	118
EDIN I-T	197/4	198/0	METAL ELS	182/0	183/0	U-DURHAM	55/0	56
EDMOND HD	44/4	44/4	MEYER	100/0	100/0	U-EXPLAUR	43/0	43
ELECTRA	289/0	289/0	MIDSLMER	396/0	395/0	U-FERRARI	10/6	10
ELECTROM	203/0	203/0	MIDSLMER	249/4	250/0	U-FLOYD E	21/4	21
ENAP	225/0	225/0	MIL HDGSS	129/0	130/0	U-FRO SEL	113/0	113
ENESS	461/0	464/0	MNT CHLT	182/0	182/0	U-HND PT	240/0	240
ENGINE ST	179/0	178/0	NOLINS OR	208/0	208/0	U-HUGH HT	183/0	183
ENG.INTL.J	312/0	312/0	NOLINS OR	208/0	208/0	U-HUGHES	42/0	43
ETAM	181/0	181/0	NOLINS OR	208/0	208/0	U-ISRAEL	22/4	22
EURO.HOME	202/0	202/0	MORGAN CR	275/0	275/0	U-KUNICK	62/0	62
EUROTHERM	301/0	300/0	MORGAN GF	273/0	274/0	U-LDN FRF	126/0	126
EURLTN LT	077/0	077/0	NORLAND	733/0	740/0	U-MICRONT	42/0	42
EURLTN LT	82/4	82/4	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-MOLINAR	31/0	30
EVODE GRP	194/0	180/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-MONMHT	27/6	27
EX.CO.LDO	223/0	223/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-MRRTWAL	379/0	380
EXPAMET	225/0	226/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-NH HEGG	44/0	44
F&C ENTER	33/4	33/4	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-NH HEGG	44/0	44
F&C EUBT	288/0	288/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-RNDSTSH	264/0	264
F&C PACIF	171/0	172/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-SAC INT	103/0	104
F&C SHLLR	83/0	83/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-STH BVS	475/0	475
FARNELL E	176/0	177/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-STHOPS	213/0	213
FED.HOUSH	197/0	198/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-TRND W	18/0	18
FENNER JH	179/0	179/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-TV AN	210/0	212
FERGUSON	255/0	251/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-UTC GRP	191/0	191
FINE ARTS	245/0	246/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-VMS LEI	41/4	41
FINLAN GP	83/0	84/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	U-VYKO GP	87/0	88
FINLAY J	108/0	109/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	UNION DIS	490/0	488
FITCH LOW	272/0	271/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	UNITECH	351/0	350
FLM.H.LNC	109/4	109/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	UTD.INDUS	61/0	61
FLMG AMER	148/4	149/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	UTD.SCIEN	158/0	158
FLMG FIE	235/4	236/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	VALUES-IC	64/4	65
FLMG INTV	182/0	183/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	VALX GPR	290/0	290
FLMG JAPN	246/0	247/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	VERSON	36/0	36
FLMG MERC	211/0	211/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	VG INSTMT	313/0	313
FLMG TECH	191/0	192/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	VICKERS	212/0	212
FRNDLY HO	279/0	280/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	VPI GROUP	145/0	144
FRMGORE	507/0	507/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WADDINGTON	198/0	198
GERR&NAT	260/0	260/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WAGON HDG	382/0	382
GESTNETER	293/0	294/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WARD HLOS	128/0	128
GOODEE DUR	129/0	129/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WARDLE ST	373/0	373
GRAMP	42/0	42/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WATERED O	74/0	75
GREEN KHM	513/0	510/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WATERED U	75/0	76
GREENALL V	297/0	297/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WATES CTY	184/0	184
GRYCOAT	500/0	501/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WATTS B&B	339/0	340
GRUPP TV A	68/0	68/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WCBS GRP	264/0	265
HAERTLAND	385/0	386/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WEIR GRP	283/0	283
HAINES RD	141/0	139/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WEMBLEY	118/0	118
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WESTBURY	247/0	246
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WESTLAND	139/0	139
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WHITCROFT	313/0	313
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WILSON BOA	224/0	225
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WILSON CON	168/0	168
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WOLSELEY	295/0	297
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WOLVODUD	424/0	425
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WPP GRP	680/0	650
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	WYS MOTOR	668/0	667
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	YALE&VAL	335/0	339
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	YORK CHEM	350/0	350
HAUSMAN	625/0	625/0	NOLNTEIG	160/0	160/0	YOUNG (R)	173/0	173

International Bond Highlights

ZURICH: Dai-ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd is issuing one billion Swiss francs in convertible notes and bonds, the largest debt issue ever launched in Switzerland, lead manager Credit Suisse said. In London, lead manager DKB International Ltd said Dai-ichi Kangyo has also launched a 300 mln dir dr convertible Eurobonds due September 30, 2004 priced at par and paying an indicated coupon of 3.875 pct. And in Frankfurt, Dresdner Bank AG said it was leading a 200 mln mark convertible Eurobond due 1998 for Dai-ichi. It has an indicated 2-7/8 pct coupon and is priced at par.

Tokyo: C. Itoh and Co. Ltd said it will issue one billion dir dr in warrant bonds, 800 mln in Europe and 400 mln in Asia, through public placement. In London, lead manager Nikko Securities Co (Europe) Ltd said the coupon on the European tranche has been indicated at live pct.

London: The Republic of Finland is issuing a 250 mln dir dr seven-year Eurobond with a nine pct coupon priced at 100-1/8, lead manager J.P. Morgan Securities Ltd said.

London: Ube Industries is issuing a 400 mln dir dr four-year equity warrant bond with an indicated 4-3/8 pct coupon, lead manager Yamachi International (Europe) Ltd said.

London: Nichirei Corp is issuing a 150 mln dir dr four-year equity warrant bond with an indicated coupon of 4-1/2 pct, lead manager Nomura International Ltd said.

BOMBAY

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	91.50	90.50	91.50	107	108	109
ACC	313.50	313	GLINDIA	91.50	90.50	91.50	107	108	109
ALCH CHEM	---	---	GRASIM	118.25	118	115	35	35	35
ALW NIS	---	---	GRSE	146.50	145	145	780	770	780
ARI FAB	---	---	GUJ ALK	68	65.50	66.50	ORRAY	22.50	22.50
ASHOK LEY	80	78	HERO HEAVY	11.50	10	11	OSHAL AGRO	74	72
ASTA PAINT	171.25	167.50	HERO HEAVY	28	27	28	PEICO	21	20.50
ATLAS COP	42	41.50	HIND CIBA	945	935	930	PFIZER	71	68
AUTO CORP	88	77	80 HIND COBRA	100.50	101.25	102	PONDS	181.25	177.50
BAJAJ AUTO	357.50	360	HIND LEVER	83.50	84.50	84	PREM AUTO	52.50	52
BAR RAYON	410	402.50	HIND MOTOR	39.25	39	38.25	RANBAXY	120	111.25
BK BOND	143	140	HINDALCO	282.50	282.50	280	RAY WOL	80	79
BLOM PLAST	---	---	HOECHST	755	730	740	RECKITT	191.25	187.50
BOM DYE	137.50	137	IND RAY	36	35.50	35	RELANCE	114.50	114
BSE INDEX	709.83	695.28	IND ORON	86	86	85	SESA GOA	45	44
BURR WEL	200	190	IND RAY	387.50	290	291.25	SHRI FIB	86.50	85
CEN SHAH	185	175	IND RAY	360	355	360	SIEMENS	70	68
CEN ENKA	2410	2380	ITC	101	98	100	SKF	1280	1270
CEN SPG	1810	1820	JK SYN	76	73	75	SPC	51	51.50
COLGATE	326.75	320	KIN ENG	182.50	180	181.50	SHL	260	255
CROMY GR	1020	1000	KIR CLUM	75	73.75	75	TATA CHEM	110	109.50
DCM	12	10.50	KSB PUMPS	375	395	395	TATA OIL	66.25	62.50
DEEP FERT	27.25	27	L AND T	84	83	83.50	TATA PCL	325	315
DUNLOP	82.50	80	LIPTON	73.50	72	73	TELCO	772.50	767.5
EI HOTELS	56.50	55	MAC RUSSEL	113.75	112.50	117.50	THAPP AGRO	70	65
ESCORTS	62	61.50	MAD COATS	100	99	100	TISCO	1237	1225
ESKATYF	122.50	120	MAHINDRA	91	89	91	VAREL	157	157
ESSAR SGL	22	21.75	MH SHARE	19	18.65	18.35	VAREL	27.50	25
FOOD SPL	170	168.75	NICO	580	560	570	VOLTA	670	685
FORBES	50	48	WILKFOOD	190	190	185	WINCO	23.25	22.50
GAR POLY	66.25	66	MODI	92.50	90	90	ZENITH	61	60
GE SHIPPING	38.50	38.50	MRF LTD	375	370	375	ZUARI AGRO	60	65

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AEG	212.0
ALLIANZ VR	1748.0
BADEMERK	188.0
BASF	314.9
BAYER	310.5
BAYER HYP	373.5
BAYER VER	370.0
BBC	443.0
BHF	441.0
BHW	534.0
COMMERZB	246.0
COMIT GUM	273.5
DATHE BEN	678.0
DEUTSCH BNK	527.5
DLV	561.0
DRESDENER B	311.8
DR BARCOCK	170.0
FAZ INDEX	585.10
FELDMUEHLE	346.5
GOLDSCHEID	401.0
HARPER	452.0
HOECHST AG	314.6
HOESCH	258.0
HORTEN	254.0
HUSSEL HLD	565.0
KALI SALZ	205.0
KARSTADT	521.5
KAUFHOFF	472.0
KLOECK H	156.5
KLOECK W	162.5
LIHDE	726.0
LUFTHANSA	182.5
MAN	301.0
MANHESMAN	244.5
MERCEDES	532.5
METALLGES	412.5
NIXDORF PF	325.5
NORSK HYD	45.0
PHILIP KOM	576.0
PORSCHKE	769.0
PREUSSAG	270.0
PMA	289.5
RHEINMETAL	420.0
RUE	292.5
RUE P	263.8
SALAMANDER	335.0
SCHERING	665.0
SEL	312.0
SIEMENS	544.2
THYSEN	256.0
VARTA	377.0
VEBA	298.0
VEW	169.8
VOLKSWAGEN	398.5

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
BANK EA	16.10
CATHAY	9.35
CAVENISH	315
CHEUNG K	9.30
CHINA L-P	13.40
DAIRY FARH	710
EVERGOLD IND	2.32
GT EAGLE	0
H S INDEX	805.46
HAECO	20
HANG LUNG	4.95
HENDERSON	5.30
HK BANK	6.00
HK ELEC	7.55
HK GAS	18.60
HK LAND	9.40
HK TELECOM	5.00
HK S HOTEL	5.40
HOPEWELL	2.57
HS BANK	26.20
HUTCHINSON	10.20
HYMAN DEV	1.44
JAR MAT	20.40
JSH	11.80
KH BUS	7.55
LAI SUN	140
MANDARIN O	0
MIRAMAR	7.10
NEW WORLD	10.70
PAUL Y CON	1.10
SHK PROP	11.80
STELUX	2.37
SVIRE A	18.50
TAI CHEUNG	4.22
TV-B	1.12
UNHAF	9.35
WINSOR	8.90
WORLD INTL	4.25

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AJINOMOTO	2750
AKAI ELEC	837
AKI	1450
ASAHI GLS	2320
ASAHI OPT	965
BANK TOKYO	1680
BRIDGESTON	1640
CANON	1770
CASIO COMP	1400
CHUGAI PHM	1740
CITIZEN W	1160
D-ICI KAN	3340
DAI NIP IK	931
DAI NIP PT	2380
DAI NIP SC	1180
DAI NIP TO	1010
DAISCEL	1100
DAIWA SEC	2180
EBRA MFG	2120
EISAI	2010
FUJITSU	1520
FUJII BANK	3540
FUJII PHOTO	3980
FUJISAMA	1730
FUJITA CP	2000
HITACHI	1650
HONDA MOT	2000
ISETAN	2410
ITO YOKADO	3680
JAP SYN RU	1260
JAPAN AIR	16300
JAPAN MET	1080
KAJIMA	2210
KANSAI EL	4670
KAO SOAP	1690
KAUSAKI S	1160
KAWASAKI H	1020
KIRIN BEV	1950
KOMATSU	1350
KUBOTA LTD	1250
KYOCERA	5100
MAKITA EL	1820
MARUI	2730
MATSUDA EL	2420
MATSUDA EL	0
MEIJI SEIK	1180
MITSUB CP	1550
MITSUB EST	1170
MITSUB RVY	1170
MITSUBI	2440
MITSUKOSHI	2450
MITSUBI EL	1020
NICHICON	1740
NIDON CMNT	1250
NIKKO SEC	1840
NIP ELEC	1840
NIP KOKKAN	897
CITIZEN W	1170
NIP STEEL	894
NIP YUSEN	1060
NIS MOTOR	1560
NUMURA SEC	3320
OLYMPUS	1180
ONUMA CO	1180
PENTA OCN	1500
PIONEER	3440
RENDON	1090
RICOM	1290
SANKYO	2440
SANYO ELEC	951
SEIYU SI	2180
SEKISUI PB	2010
SHARP	1390
SHISEIDO	1720
SONY	7400
SUMITOMO	1370
TAISEI	1740
TAISHO MM	1340
TAKEDA CH	2450
TEIJI	900
TKO NEW IX	522.59
TOKYO MM	2040
TOKYO ELEC	1220
TOKYO GAS	1120
TOKYO POWR	6010
TORAY IND	1020
TOSHIBA EL	1380
TOTO	2420
TOYO KOGY	1000
TOYOTA MOT	2690
YANAHU	1440
YAMAICHI	1830
YAMAMOTO	3520
YAMAZAKI	1590

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE EASIER IN VERY LIGHT TRADE

TOKYO, MAY 30, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED DOWN IN VERY LIGHT TRADING, WITH INVESTORS GENERALLY SIDELINING WATCHING THE DOLLAR FOR SIGNS THAT IT WILL END ITS CLIMB AGAINST THE YEN. "EVERYONE IS WAITING," SAID AKIHIRO NAIMURA, HEAD OF STOCK INFORMATION FOR OKASAN SECURITIES CO LTD.

"THE FEAR IN THE MARKET IS, WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THE DOLLAR KEEPS GOING UP?" AN EXPECTED RISE IN JAPAN'S DISCOUNT RATE MAY BOOST THE YEN BUT WILL NOT AFFECT THE STOCK MARKET, HE ADDED.

THE 225-SHARE NIKKEI INDEX SLIPPED 83.94 POINTS, OR 0.25 PCT, TO CLOSE AT 34,076.89 AFTER LOSING 30.79 POINTS ON MONDAY.

TURNOVER WAS A LIGHT 650 MLN YEN SHARES AGAINST 900 MLN ON MONDAY, AND THIS EXAGGERATED SELLING PRESSURE AND CAUSED SOME PRICE SWINGS, ESPECIALLY NEAR THE CLOSE.

"THEY'RE TRADING IN A VACUUM SO THINGS MOVE AROUND PRETTY QUICKLY," SAID A BROKER AT A FOREIGN SECURITIES HOUSE.

THE MARKET SHADOWED CURRENCY MOVEMENTS MOST OF THE DAY.

THE INDEX WAS DOWN 154.26 POINTS TO 34,006.57 AT MID-MORNING WHEN THE DOLLAR RALLIED TO THE DAY'S PEAK OF 144 YEN, ITS HIGHEST LEVEL HERE SINCE OCTOBER 1987. BUT WHEN THE DOLLAR EASED AFTER INTERMITTENT BANK OF JAPAN INTERVENTION, SOME AFTERNOON BARGAIN-HUNTING EMERGED, BROKERS SAID.

"THIS WAS A DIFFICULT DAY TO COMMENT ON THE MARKET," SAID A BROKER AT A MAJOR JAPANESE SECURITIES HOUSE.

THE BANK OF JAPAN BEGAN A SPECIAL POLICY BOARD MEETING AT 3.00 P.M. (0600 GMT). A CENTRAL BANK SPOKESMAN DECLINED COMMENT, BUT MARKET ANALYSTS EXPECT THE BOARD TO DECIDE TO RAISE THE DISCOUNT RATE BY 0.75 PERCENTAGE POINT TO 3.25 PCT, EFFECTIVE MAY 31.

"THE MARKET WAS STYMNED BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF EFFECT OF (REPORTS OF) A THREE-QUARTER-POINT RISE ON CURRENCY," SAID A FOREIGN BROKER. "THERE ARE NO LARGE THEMES. PEOPLE ARE FRUSTRATED AND ILL-AT-EASE."

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, MAY 30, REUTER - SHARE PRICES ENDED LOWER ON PROFIT-TAKING MIXED WITH MARKET TALK OF RUMORED PLANS TO USE MILITARY FORCE IN PEKING, AND DENG XIAOPENG'S FAILING HEALTH.

THE HANG SENG INDEX ENDED 39.55 POINTS LOWER AT 2,805.46.

NEWS OF PROTESTS IN PEKING AGAINST THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THREE PRO-DEMOCRACY WORKERS SPARKED PESSIMISM ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHINA DURING THE AFTERNOON, BROKERS SAID.

"AT THE MOMENT, THE MARKET IS TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON NEWS FROM CHINA," A BROKER SAID. "THERE'S NO POINT IN GUESSING WHAT TOMORROW WILL BRING."

AMMAN

ALADDIN COMPANY	OPNG	CLSG
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	---	---
ARAB BANK	---	---
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	---	---
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	---	---
ARAB INSURANCE	1.08	1.05
ARAB INT. INV/TRADE	---	---
ARAB INT. UNION INS	1.11	1.16
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	---	---
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	---	---
ARAB PAPER CON/TRA	0.35	0.37
ARAB PHARMA. HANE	---	---
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN	---	---
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	---	---
BEIT AL-MAL/BEITHA	---	---
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	30.00	30.50
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	---	---
DAR ALDANA DV/INV.	---	---
DARCO/INVEST/HOUSE	---	---
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.75	0.71
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.60	4.60
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.27	1.25
GENERAL MINING.	2.10	2.10
HIMMEL MINERALS	0.75	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44
IND./WATCH JEMCO	---	---
INDSTR. DEVLPT BHK	---	---
INDSTR./COMM/AGR.	---	---
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75
INTERN. COMM/INV	0.13	0.13
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.90	0.90
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	---	---
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29
JOB TOBACCO/CIGARET	19.00	19.50
JOB CERAMIC FACTOR	---	---
JOR EAGLE INC.	25.05	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	---	---
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	---	---
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.30	2.18
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	2.54	2.58
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.79	0.83
JOR LIN BRICK	---	---
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	---	---
JOR PAPER CARDBRIDGE	---	---
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	---	---
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	---	---
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	1.79	1.72
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	4.25	4.25
JOR SECURIT CORP	1.12	1.11
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	---	---
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	---	---
JOR WORSTED MLL	4.70	4.70
JOR. KUWAIT AGR	0.91	0.91
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	---	---
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.45	5.45
JOR. INV. FIN. COMP	2.58	2.57
JORDAN GULF REAL	---	---
JORDAN DAIRY	---	---
JORDAN GULF BANK	---	---
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE	---	---
JORDAN ISLAMIC BHK	1.98	2.00
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	---	---
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.71	0.71
MACH/EQUI/RENT/MAIN	---	---
MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
MID EAST EXCHANGE	1.17	1.11
MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	---	---
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.75	0.75
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	---	---
NAT/CABLE/WIRE/WF	---	---
NATIONAL ALHIA INS	1.37	1.38
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.97	0.96
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	---	---
NATIONAL STEEL	---	---
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
PETRA BANK	2.35	2.30
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35	0.35
PHILADELPHIA INS.	---	---
PRECAST CONCRETE	---	---
RAFFIA INDUSTRIAL	1.91	1.91
REAL ESTATE INV.	---	---
SHIPPING LINES	---	---
SPRING SERVICE	---	---
THE HOUSING BANK	1.83	1.90
UNITED INSURANCE	1.21	1.22
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	---	---
UNIVERSAL INS.	0.65	0.68
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.85	0.85
YARNOUK INSURANCE	1.35	1.35

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL				BC-A	86.00	87.00	86.00
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LC-A	28	29	.29
AC-A	19.50	19.75	19.75	LC-B	.29	.31	
ANS	3.85	3.90	3.90	PR-A	.30	.31	.30
GLO	328.00		328.00	PX-B	.30	.31	
PLDT	320.00	322.50	325.00	OIL SECTOR			
KPSI-A	3.80	3.85		BP-A	.013	.014	.013
KPSI-B				BP-B	.014	.015	.014
SNC-A	233.00	234.00	240.00	LRC-A	.0036	.0042	.0038
SNC-B	327.50		330.00	LRC-B	.0036	.0042	.0038
MINING SECTOR				OPM-A	.043	.044	.044
APX-A	.018	.019	.019	OPM-B	.046	.047	.046
APX-B	.019	.02		OV-A	.045	.046	.046
AT-A	42.00	44.00		OV-B	.048	.049	.048

Makani Stock Market Report				
OFFICIAL INFORMATION				
SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
C/I	1,136,385	14,011,560	1,189.24	25.75 DN
MINING	150,441,000	4,576,000	5,115.51	27.00 DN
OIL	325,750,000	7,548,680	7,062	0.151 DN
TOTAL	477,345,385	26,136,240	990.51	17.46 DN

BUSINESS

Reserves decline as foreign debt rises

Arab aid drops

AMMAN, May 30. (Reuters): Jordan's new Central Bank governor, in his first public statement on the troubled economy, said yesterday the bank's gold reserves had declined and the kingdom's foreign debt had reached just over \$8 billion.

Mohammed Said Al Nabulsi told state-run Jordan television his main aim was to build up the Central Bank's hard currency reserves and stabilise the dinar's foreign exchange rate.

He said the depletion in the gold reserves was caused by a decline in Arab aid promised to Jordan, a drop in remittances by Jordanians working abroad and economic stagnation in Jordan and the region.

"Our gold reserves gradually fell during past years from one million ounces to 740,000 ounces," he said. "Some of the 740,000 ounces were exchanged for foreign currencies, but two thirds of the gold is still within the hands of the Central Bank."

Nabulsi also said the bank's hard currency reserves had fallen but did not give any figures. The last official figure put them at \$67.7 million last July compared with \$312 million a year earlier.

"Our foreign exchange reserves underwent a severe drop regarding what we have now, but we hope they will grow now given the International Monetary Fund (IMF) plan and expected Arab aid," Nabulsi said.

The last official government estimate put Jordan's foreign debt at \$6.5 billion, with repayments of just over \$1 billion due this year. Bankers say military spending accounts for about half the debt.

He said the basic aim of Jordan's agreement with the IMF on a letter of intent on economic reforms was to allow the country to reschedule most of the debt.

"The IMF programme is the correct way not only to allow us to reorganise our monetary situation but to harness the process of repaying our debts on time," he said.

The IMF's executive board is due to consider the letter of intent in about six weeks time. If approved, it would enable Jordan to apply to the Paris Club of creditors to reschedule government-guaranteed debt.

Nabulsi said a decision on yesterday to repay the dinar to a basket of foreign currencies tailored to fit Jordan's foreign trade pattern was part of a package to allow the Jordanian currency to stabilise.

The move, effective today, would give a true reflection of the dinar's value against major foreign currencies, he said. The Central Bank would in future set rates daily.

Aluminium output may treble by 1995

DUBAI, May 30. (Reuters): Aluminium output from Gulf Arab states may treble over a million tonnes a year by the mid-1990s but industry chiefs in the region believe world demand can absorb this, barring a world-wide recession.

Existing aluminium plants in Bahrain and Dubai both plan to expand output and two big projects in Saudi Arabia and Qatar are at the planning stage.

The aluminium industry is a natural choice for Gulf because energy is the key element in refinery costs. Electricity generated with natural gas is used to smelt alumina ore shipped from Australia.

In the past, aluminium has been noted for its boom-bust cycles but regional industry managers pointed to a dead Japanese primary metal industry, and declining US and European industries which should leave room for the Gulf.

"On the whole, there are no grounds for pessimism at the moment," said Dubai Aluminium (Dubai) chief executive Ian Livingstone in an interview.

A black spot for Gulf managers is the European Economic Community's (EEC) six per cent tariff on primary aluminium imports, from which European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries including aluminium competitor Norway are exempt.

"They say it is not discriminatory, but effectively it is a discriminatory tariff," Livingstone said.

However, regional industry leaders believe some EEC officials in Brussels are on their side and that the gradual decline of the European industry will eventually see that tariff disappear.

Inflation, unemployment soar

Argentina sets state of siege

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, May 30. (AP): Police guarded stores and public buildings in several cities today after looting rampages sparked by a collapsing economy prompted President Raul Alfonsín to declare a nation-wide state of siege.

Many groups of looters have been led by women and children, some of whom have been eating in supermarkets before fleeing with food.

At least three people were killed yesterday during looting and riots in the northern city of Rosario, the government news agency Telam said.

Police said about 600 people were arrested and 41 — including five policemen — were injured by rubber bullets, tear-gas, stones and fists. Another 300 were arrested in working class suburbs of Buenos Aires.

Alfonsín declared a 30-day state of siege last night. The order suspends civil liberties in an attempt to end a week of unrest by people angered by soaring inflation, rising unemployment, a devalued currency and shrunken wages.

Under the state of siege, police can conduct raids without obtaining warrants and make arrests without specific charges. The decree must be approved by Congress, which was to review it today.

The government "had no alternative than this measure to preserve order and guarantee the property and liberty of citizens," Interior Minister Juan Carlos Pugliese said.

Alfonsín "had no alternative" than to declare the state of siege, suspending civil liberties in order "to preserve order and

guarantee the property and liberty of citizens, and the right to work," Interior Minister Juan Carlos Pugliese said.

Pugliese, who until last week was economy minister, led the unrest on "ultra-leftists... who want to cause anarchy." He contended that the looting was co-ordinated, police radio signals were jammed and pamphlets were distributed encouraging Alfonsín to resign immediately and workers to stage a general strike.

But leftist leaders denounced Alfonsín's decision to declare the state of siege — a measure that is more comprehensive than a state of emergency — and blamed the disturbances on the president's failed economic policy.

"The way to calm people down is to grant an immediate salary hike of 100 per cent, index wages weekly, freeze prices and tell businesses and stores — on pain

of confiscation — to deliver immediately food and medicine at the frozen prices," said Luis Zamora, a national deputy of the Movement Toward Socialism.

Many groups of looters were led by women and children, some of whom ate in the supermarkets before fleeing with food. One government official denounced the presence of women and children as a tactic "to avoid police repression."

The state of siege must be approved by Congress, which was scheduled to meet this afternoon. It empowers police to conduct raids without warrants and make arrests without charges any more specific than suspicion of wrongdoing.

Early this morning, police said they detained three leftist political activists in Rosario and accused them of carrying weapons, distributing pamphlets and inciting violence.

Nestle fund-raising plans to go ahead

Creation of reserve shares played

ZURICH, May 30. (Reuters): Swiss food giant Nestle said yesterday that a planned capital increase to raise nearly 800 million Swiss francs (\$460 million) would go ahead after all.

Last Friday Nestle issued a statement saying "changes in (company) bylaws and the equity increases," which had been approved by the shareholders annual meeting, were blocked because of action taken by a tiny group of dissenting shareholders.

But the company said yesterday that the capital increase was in two stages — and the dissenting group, known as Canes, had now made clear it was not opposed to the first stage, a rights issue of new shares to existing shareholders.

"The new shares resulting from it will be offered to shareholders in the next few days as decided by the general meeting," spokesman Francisco-Xavier Perroud said from Nestle's headquarters in Vevey.

Canes said in a separate statement it was objecting only to the second stage of the capital increase, which involved creating shares for the management to hold in reserve and issue when it saw fit.

Perroud said the confusion had arisen because it was legally questionable whether the two stages of the capital increase could be separated.

Canes, which represents 202 shareholders and 0.2 per cent of Nestle's capital, attacked the creation of reserve shares, saying they could undermine shareholders' rights.

The Lausanne-based group presented its objections to the Vevey registrar of companies last Thursday at the start of the company's annual shareholders meeting.

While the 2,668 shareholders voted overwhelmingly in favour of the board's proposals, the registrar agreed to freeze a number of the decisions and give Canes time to go to a district court for a ruling on their objections.

Changes in the company's statutes only have legal power if they are lodged with the registrar.

Canes succeeded in having the registrar block both the reserve shares and proposed amendments to the company's articles of association which it said would diminish shareholders' rights and give the board too much power.

Bouygues to head consortium

Bid for \$6b contract

PARIS, May 30. (Reuters): French construction group Bouygues said yesterday it would head a European consortium in a bid for a \$6 billion contract forming part of a massive Libyan irrigation scheme.

"It's the biggest construction project I have ever seen," company chairman Francis Bouygues told a news conference.

He said the consortium would include seven other companies including West German construction firm Bilfinger and Berger Bau AG. He declined to name the others.

"We have had talks with Libyan officials, but this is a long-term effort," Bouygues said.

Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi has hailed the project to build an "artificial river" from the edge of the Sahara desert to the parched coastal plains as the eighth wonder of the world.

The huge engineering scheme is aimed at making Libya, whose population is concentrated on the coast, self-sufficient in fruit, vegetables, wheat and drinking water.

A \$3.3-billion contract for the first phase, signed in 1983 with the South Korean construction firm Dong A, involved the laying of 1,900 km (1,180 miles) of pipe from wells at Sarir and Tazerbo to the coastal cities of Sirte and Benghazi.

Three years later two American companies were forced to pull out of the scheme after former President Ronald Reagan imposed economic sanctions on Libya, accusing it of promoting terrorism.

Food aid 'dangerously short'

ROME, May 30. (AP): The World Food Programme said yesterday it is 417,000 metric tons short of food it needs to cover emergency needs for 1989 and that the shortage could disrupt deliveries to refugees.

"Unless additional resources are forthcoming, the programme may be forced to stop responding to all but the most vital needs," executive director James Ingram said in a report to the agency's governing council.

Meanwhile, the director-general of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation called for a major re-assessment of how world food aid programmes are conducted.

Edouard Saouma told the World Food Programme's committee on food aid policies and programmes that developing countries should consider giving

cash rather than in surplus food commodities. He said that will allow food to be purchased from local markets.

He said developing countries were calling for a reassessment of the programme's 15-year-old policies partly because agricultural policy reforms and technology have raised the possibility of using locally produced staples as an alternative to imports.

Ingram in his report to the governing body said the shortage of emergency food supplies "could lead to a disruption in deliveries to refugees and an inability to meet unexpected disasters."

Ingram said the shortage includes 142,000 tons of food needed for Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran and 182,000 tons to cope with African drought and crop failure victims.



Looters leave the supermarket 'El Tigre' with bags Monday morning. Police fired rubber bullets and tear gas canisters to break up mobs of hundreds of slum-dwellers on a looting rampage in Rosario, 186 miles west of Buenos Aires, after President Raul Alfonsín announced an emergency economic plan to stop inflation. (Reuters wirephoto)

Argentina seeks Arab money, trade

Eid to visit Kuwait

ABU DHABI, May 30. (Reuters): An Argentine trade team, buoyed by the election in Buenos Aires of a president of Syrian origin, is touring Arab states in a bid to boost business and attract investment to a country in economic crisis.

"The time is right to boost trade and economic relations between Argentina and Arab countries," said Faris Al Eid, head of the Arab-Argentine Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

"President-elect Carlos Menem has voiced full support

for this trend," he told Reuters in Abu Dhabi.

Menem, rode to victory under the banner of the opposition Peronist Party this month and is due to replace President Raul Alfonsín later this year.

"Argentina is undergoing one of its worst economic crises. We Arabs can play a role in giving credibility to Menem's policies by increasing trade and economic ties," said Eid.

Eid, who like Menem emigrated to Argentina from Syria in the 1930s, has visited Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Syria,

and is visiting Kuwait, Iraq, Egypt, and North Africa.

"Considering the large Arab community in Argentina, estimated at more than 2.5 million, trade and investment co-operation is very low," said Eid.

Figures from the Abu Dhabi-based Arab Monetary Fund show trade between the 21-nation Arab League and Argentina was worth \$348 million in 1987, down from 430 million in 1986.

This is a fraction of total Arab trade of \$152 billion and 170 billion, respectively.

Prague told to reconsider energy policy

Call to halt nuclear projects

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, May 30. (AP): Austria's minister of the environment yesterday called on Czechoslovakia to halt construction on nuclear projects and reconsider its energy policy.

Austrian Environment Minister Marietta Flemming made the comments at the opening session of a seven-nation meeting on cross-border pollution.

The two-day conference of environment ministers and experts from Central European countries in East and West was initiated by Czechoslovakia. It is the first such meeting to discuss ways to monitor and reduce border-crossing pollution.

Czechoslovak Premier Ladislav Adamec, who first proposed a summit of leaders from countries bordering Czechoslovakia, told the ministers his country was prepared to host a centre to aid in the prevention of accidents and elimination of their consequences, the official news agency CTK reported.

Flemming emphasised the concern of Austrian citizens over the construction of a nuclear reactor at Temelin, near Ceske Budejovice, 120 kilometres (75

miles) south of Prague and some 50 kilometres (20 miles) from the Austrian border.

The project is strongly opposed in Austria, where citizens voted against the use of nuclear energy in a referendum in 1978.

"It could be difficult to rethink our energy policy overnight," Miroslav Pavel, Czechoslovakia's government spokesman told a news conference at the end of the first day's proceedings.

"Apart from that, I think the attention we pay to safety measures in such projects makes the concern of Austrian citizens groundless," Pavel said.

Eight nuclear reactors account for 24 per cent of Czechoslovakia's overall energy production. Czechoslovakia plans to use nuclear energy to meet close to half its energy needs by the year 2000. Nuclear energy is to replace dependence on the burning of high sulphur content brown coal as the main source of energy.

Ecology ministers from West and East Germany, Poland, Hungary and the Soviet Union are also attending the meeting.

US-Japan trade row casts shadow over OECD meeting

PARIS, May 30. (Reuters): The United States and its main trading partners are at odds over rising inflation and trade practices — with Washington's blacklisting of Japan likely to overshadow annual OECD talks starting here tomorrow.

The annual meeting of economy and trade ministers of the 24-nation Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) will be the backdrop against which the Japanese and Americans thrash out their differences for the first time.

Washington decided last week to single out Japan for allegedly unfair trading practices under the US omnibus trade legislation.

Japan is worried that the US trade act —

which calls for bilateral talks between the United States and the offending trading partner — may undermine the OECD's commitment to the multilateral trading system, in which countries try to settle trade disputes by the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno, widely expected to be named prime minister on Friday, will be leading a delegation to discuss the issue with US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady and Trade Secretary Carla Hills.

The other major issue dividing the OECD is how to combat rising inflation in industrialised countries.

Britain last week pushed bank base rates a full point higher to brake consumer

prices, while Tokyo and Bonn are considering similar measures of their own.

But some ministers gathering in Paris are said to be wary of pushing interest rates even higher for fear of causing a world recession.

"Action on interest rates has been appropriate and effective, and no major change is recommended at the present time," one OECD official said.

Ministers are also worried about the growing trade imbalances among developed nations.

While the United States continues to register big trade deficits, the West German and Japanese surpluses have grown in spite of the surge in the value of the mark and yen.

Iran, Bulgaria keen to boost economic relations

TEHRAN, May 30. (OPECNA): Hristo Hristov, Bulgarian vice-minister, has expressed his country's keenness to boost trade co-operation in such fields as gas, petroleum, building of ports and railways and purchase of Iranian non-oil goods.

This came at the opening here Saturday of the sixth joint Iranian-Bulgarian commission on economic co-operation. The Iranian side was led by Minister of Agriculture Eisa Kalantari, while Hristov headed the Bulgarian delegation.

Kalantari stressed his country's policy of boosting its non-oil exports and expressed Iran's readiness to export such industrial products as motor cars, mini-buses, life-trucks, apart from agriculture produce and construction materials.

He also called for greater bilateral co-operation in fighting desertification and in expanding scientific and technical ties.

Referring to the forthcoming visit by Iranian Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to Bulgaria next month, he expected that the two countries would sign a long-term co-operation agreement.

Kalantari also said that an understanding had been reached with Bulgaria to co-operate with Iran in irrigation, dam-building, aerial crop-spraying, manufacture of agricultural machinery and exchange of related expertise.

At the weekend, a committee on roads and transport, set up under the commission, signed a protocol calling for air and sea links between the two countries.

Sulphur exports

RIYADH, May 30. (OPECNA): A new plant for melting huge blocks of sulphur stored at ARAMCO's Berri gas complex has added 1,200 tonnes to the kingdom's daily sulphur production, and is also helping to meet growing export demand for the product.

According to a local daily, the re-melted sulphur is pumped to the industrial port of Jubail and processed into pellets before it is exported.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIKH PORT AS ON 30/05/1989			
B.No.	Ship's Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1	Spyros	Algh. Barwil	4843988
2	Trade Nomad	Algh. Barwil	4843988
3	Amara	Al Sawan	4746018
4	Ga Glister	M. Bahar	2433881
5	Fatima	ISA	2441860
6	Sanku Coral	Salmiah	4745471
7	Nikolay Morozov	Al Rashed	2422026
8	Sheam	ISA	2441860
9	Hyundai	Gh. Qutub	4347815
13	Tackler Dosinia	ISA	2441860
15	Sea Star	Sagar	2432962
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship's Name	Agent	Tel. No.
30/5	Hual Trotter	M. Bahar	2433881
30/5	Nimrod	Algh. Barwil	4843988
30/5	Sea Jade	Gh. Qutub	4347815
31/5	Zarka	Gh. Qutub	4347815
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No.	Ship's Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	General Lukban	Arabian Seas	2421303
3	Sally	Sager Shaeen	2432692
9	Glory Cape	Algh. Barwil	4843988
10	Wan Ling	Roger	2423642
14	Ionian Wind	Algh. Barwil	4843988
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship's Name	Agent	Tel. No.
29/5	Al Majed	MA Bahar	2433881
29/5	Anafi	Algh. Barwil	4843988
29/5	Trakler Dosinia	Al Kamal	2425437
2/6	Al Wajba	UASC	4843150
2/6	Q.L.A. Al-Fuja	UASC	4843150
3/6	Al Wattyah	UASC	4843150
3/6	Ascona	Algh. Barwil	4843988
4/6	Glory Sky	ISA	2441860
4/6	Malak	Roger	2423642
4/6	Hercules	B.B. Hassan	2433537
2/6	Effy N	Gh. Qutub	4347815
2/6	Malak	Roger	2423642
2/6	Al Wajba	UASC	4843150
4/6	Marivra	Al Kamal	2425437
5/6	Effy N		

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VIDEO CORNER

Factual errors in Patty's story

By Shaun Seekins

POLICE Academy 6 is the latest in the series. This time the Police Academy team take on a master criminal who has unleashed a crime wave that not only endangers the lives of innocent bystanders but more importantly, threatens real-estate values. All the standard jokes which have made the previous five films box office winners.

Although, ostensibly, a remake of his own *El Dia Crea La Femme*, Roger Vadim's *And God Created Women* bears little resemblance to the former. The theme of a beautiful but stifled young woman living in a small provincial town does parallel it though, and it is with this theme that Vadim seems intrigued. Somehow, it doesn't work in such a weak story.

Rebecca DeMornay is an inmate of a New Mexico state woman's prison whose attempt to escape is inadvertently thwarted by a wealthy political candidate (Frank Langella) interested in prison reform. Through his intervention, she is able to marry a young carpenter who works in the prison and thereby get parole.

From this point, the girl's life consists of trying to remain uninvolved with her husband's family, starting a rock band, and getting something going with Langella. She tries to



The Police Academy team takes on a master criminal who has unleashed a crime wave that endangers the lives of innocent bystanders in Police Academy 6.

remain a free spirit but, predictably, ends up being the loving person that the men in her life always knew she could be.

The picture is slow in taking off and situations that may have seemed amoral and provocative to audiences in the 1950s no longer have any shock value. And DeMornay, though very attractive, doesn't captivate the baby doll appeal of Brigitte Bardot.

Patty Hearst, Her Own Story is a harrowing account of events following the real-life

kidnapping of newspaper heiress Patricia Campbell Hearst in 1974.

Patty (the brilliant Natasha Richardson), a relaxed, apparently apolitical Californian student aged 19, was suddenly snatched one night from her apartment by members of the self-styled Symbionese Liberation Army. A tiny bunch of white, middle class misfits, the SLA, led by a charismatic black, Donald De Freeze (calling himself Cinque, pronounced Sin-Q), had declared war

on "fascist" America and believed that the seizing of pampered Patty could be a useful tool in their urban guerrilla campaign.

After 57 days in cramped squalor — and regularly subjected to sexual and mental abuse — Patty's blindfold was finally removed. Offered freedom or a chance to join the "cell," Patty opted for the latter and was renamed Tania.

This move is not explained clearly though later she is heard to say she was "happy to be

accepted rather than killed." For the next year, she took part (reluctantly, it seems) in a series of crimes culminating in her arrest by the FBI. Convicted of armed robbery, a final caption tells us she was eventually given a presidential commutation of sentence after three years in jail, though her actual conviction has never been overturned. The grainy almost documentary style drama benefits from a good script that chillingly exploits the revolutionary jargon spouted by the SLA troops.

Tour of Duty continues with The Kib Zon set in Saigon during 1968 where Bravo Company find themselves in an altogether new situation. Convicted stars Lindsay Wagner and is based on a true story. When a series of brutal attacks on women occur in Johnson City, Tennessee, the search is on to find the person responsible.

Douglas Forbes has the face that fits even though he has an alibi. He is convicted and sentenced to 60 years in prison. Only his wife still believes in his innocence and she starts a desperate battle to obtain his release.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Fintas/Farwanjia: Video Naut, Saliha, Tel: 2432809; and Video Club, Saliha, Tel: 5764372.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Players
UPTO June 1 (7.30 pm): Kuwait Players will present the last production of the season, a comedy entitled *When Did You Last See Your Trousers*, at the Universal American School, Salwa. Tickets KD3. For reservations call 5637088, 5629875.

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 7.00 to 10.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon, 7 to 10 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Cultural Association
JUNE 4: 10 am. The regular coffee morning will be held at the Holiday Inn. All German-speaking ladies, especially newcomers are welcome, and should make an effort to attend for before the summer holidays.

MUSIC

Piano and Flute Concert
JUNE 3: Pianist Michael Beissenhirtz and flutist Ulrike Beissenhirtz are having a concert at the Terrace Room of the Kuwait International Hotel at 8.00 pm. KD3 per person. Reservations at: 2530000 ext. 8039/8040.

Piano concert
JUNE 7 at 7.30 pm: Famous Turkish pianist Ms Arin Karamursel will give a performance at the Ballroom 'A' of the Kuwait Sheraton. Tickets are KD5 per person followed by a reception. For reservation contact 2422055 ext 104/107/109.

Musical evening
JUNE 9: Octave presents a grand musical evening comprising hit songs from Hindi, Malayalam and Tamil films, at the Indian Arts Circle auditorium, Funaitees at 6.30 pm.

SOCIAL

Bangladeshi get-together
BANGLADESHI Engineers and architects in Kuwait will hold a get-together at the Hotel Plaza Ballroom on June 15 from 7.30 pm onwards. For details contact 4317145, 4718157 or 3713923.

Sultan Gallery
UPTO May 31: Exhibition of painting of the papyrus by

Egyptian artist Adam Henein. Opening hours 10 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm at the Thumayan Algharim Building, Soor Street.

Kuwait-Welsh Society
MAY 31: The annual general meeting of the society will be held on Wednesday at 8 pm. For details call 391-2384; 372-9132; 371-3467; 562-5316.

Contact
JUNE 3: The ladies information group. Contact, will hold its next meeting on Saturday, 10 am, at the Mesilah Beach Hotel. For details call 3720197; 4874513; 5388105.

Qabazard Dive Club
JUNE 11: The organizational meeting for a new Qabazard Dive Club will be held at 7 pm at Qabazard Marine Company, Hamad Al Mubarak St. Salmiya to elect new officers. New members also welcome. For further details Tel: 5746579.

Get-together
JUNE 16: The Go-Go Club will be having a get-together at the Ramada Al Salem Hotel from 11 am onwards with Stepping Stones and Symphony in attendance. For details contact Raju 2412970 and Tony 2631826 after 3.30 pm.

Fiesta Filipina
JUNE 16: The Filipino Cultural Club will hold "Fiesta Filipina" to commemorate the 91st anniversary of the Philippine Republic on June 12. The show will give a glimpse of the Filipino heritage through songs and music. The show will be held at the Meridian Hotel, Al Jahra Ballroom. Highlights of the evening are an on-the-spot painting competition; lucky draw and exhibition. Show plus dinner buffet costs KD 5 per person. For reservations contact the Philippine Embassy; Mabuhay Restaurant; the Philippine Gift Shop and Rainbow Restaurant (Fahaeel).

FILMS

Konkani Drama
JUNE 15/16 (4.00 pm): Nashibachoo Divo Paloulo, the MAR production's Konkani drama, directed by Prem Kumar to be staged at the Indian Arts Circle. For entry passes contact Raja Stores, tel: 2412970.

HOTELS

At the Plaza
MARCO POLO: the Italian restaurant in Kuwait featuring authentic Italian dishes exquisitely designed to create the real Italian atmosphere. A celebration dinner menu a la carte. Be entertained by the most celebrated duo in town, Stan and Alice.
Noura Terrace: A sumptuous barbeque in the open air with traditional Arabic music every Thursday. Enjoy hubble bubble with backgammon every evening. Unique surroundings, waterfalls and green scenery with Lebanese

mezzah.
Loulwa Corner: Open all day long featuring delights of real Arabic icecream, jumbo size sandwiches, juices, light meals and a special business lunch for KD2 only. Live Arabic music.
Al Dallah: Coffeehop offers delicious Arabic dishes with continental cuisine. Salad and sweets buffet. A la carte menu for lunch and dinner. Enjoy our variety of food with live music by the famous Arabic oud player Fawzi Jamal.

At the Meridian
Hotel Meridian Kuwait features special weekly promotion at La Brasserie restaurant: Asian corner every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday. A wide variety of Asian dishes, in addition to the regular buffet, will be featured. Tempura, fried noodles, etc. are prepared in front of the guests and served on the spot.
Mexican night every Sunday: Discover the delight of Mexican cuisine awaiting you in our 'Little Mexico' Greek Taverna every Tuesday: Experience authentic Greek ambience and food with live Bouzouki music and wide variety of mezzah.
Family day every Friday: Enjoy a Friday with your family. La Brasserie offers a wide array of oriental favourites along with live music entertainment plus a magician to thrill the little ones and many other games for the children.

SPORTS

Recreation Centre
SWIMMING lessons available at the Holiday Inn Health Club and recreation centre. Separate ladies and mens keep fit classes with Steve and Chris Hill on Mondays at 6 to 7 pm. Also ladies aerobics and mixed aerobics with Touvi Pakasalo. Yoga and bowling alley available for company tournaments. Squash handicap tournament for all standards and squash coaching available from our squash instructors. Also tennis coaching, martial arts starting on Sunday, June 4 and on following Sundays (6.30 to 7.30 pm) mixed classes. Additional facilities available under the supervision of selected professionals. For details contact the recreation department, tel. No. 4742000 ext. 6788 or 6700.

Volleyball tournament
JUNE 1: The finals of the Nehru Centennial Volleyball Tournament conducted by the OICC will be played between the Kerala Sports and the Sports Lovers club in Abbasiya at 6.30 pm in Abbasiya.

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by fax (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwalith. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

An unforgivable bombardment with technique

By Gail Seery

YOU have probably noticed that there are many unexplained questions in this world: many mysteries and conundrums, little pieces of information which, whatever you look at them, simply do not add up. One such question is why anyone would want to write, direct, produce, act in, or finance a film like *Once Again*.

I'm prepared to believe that there might be some people who would enjoy this film. People with emotional problems, or very high credulity thresholds, or people who find difficulty sleeping. *Once Again* would also probably be of great benefit to those who feel unable to cope with the uncertainties of the modern world, and need something to restore their faith in their own powers of prediction. In this film if you say, "Just bet that Patrick walks

through that door in the next ten seconds" you are definitely going to be right.

Once Again tells the story of a musician who finds that he has wasted the last ten years of his life and that all he ever really wanted is waiting for him at home. Any further examination of the plot is likely to increase the sugar content of this newspaper considerably, but Patrick Glickman gets a call in his fashionable L.A. apartment which tells him that his father is remarrying and that he is to be the best man. Just to complicate matters, his father's intended is the mother of the girl he walked out on to go to California in the first place, and later he discovers that she bore his son and never told him anything about it.

Basically this story is a sort of wishy-

washy Bright Lights Big City, and carries about as much social comment as Bambi without being nearly so entertaining.

I can forgive a wishy-washy story line. I can forgive actors who resort to gooey expressions instead of acting, and I can forgive the odd total lapse in verisimilitude. I found it hard to forgive the way the viewer is constantly bombarded with technique. Instead of worrying about the acting and overall sincerity of the film director Amin O. Chaudry seems more concerned with what might be labelled 'artistic shots' but which are actually merely outmoded clichés. Most of the technique we are bludgeoned with here would have been more at home in an early Seventies film.

Once Again is constructed like a disaster movie, which is apt. No scene sur-

prises, and the stilted dialogue which makes no attempt at any genuine character development, makes the audience — and at times, the actors, wince. This flimsy offering is at best patronising, and the totally irrelevant details with which it is decked do nothing to improve the story.

So many things don't ring true. Could a man really mistake the voice of a sleepy nine-year-old for that of an adult lover?

Patrick Glickman is a thoroughly selfish man if we look at his actions. Somehow in the film he is presented as misguided but changed and now prepared to be a model parent, and a hero. This is the ultimate insult to our intelligence, and the discerning viewer should be prepared to throw up at least once before the end of the film. Take my advice, don't bother with *Once Again*.

Two firms merge to form new company

JAPAN Line and Y.S. Line (Yamashita-Shimihon Steamship) have decided on a new company name, Navis Line, Ltd., after the two firms merge on June.

They signed a merger contract on January 30, 1989. The merger, which is expected to take effect in June, would produce the largest shipping company in Japan for bulk and tanker operations.

Japan Line and Y.S. Line joined their containership operations October, 1988 under the name of Nippon Liner System.

Y.S. Line president Shozo Magoshi is expected to be named president of the new firm and Naosuke Yasuda currently president of Japan Line, chairman of the new company.

CINEMA

Al Andalus
Beetle Juice
Al Salmiya
Booked for Arabic play
Al Hasna Wa Wahoush
Al Hamra
Arabic Film
Drive-In
Arabic Film
Al Firdous
Zulum Ko Jala Doonga
Starring: Naseruddin Shah,
Vasanti Senna, Suparna Anand
Fahaeel Open-Air
Clerk
Fahaeel
Arabic Film
Jahra
Big Business
Gruada
Arabic Film
Salaibkhat
Karate Girls
Al Jleeb
Cross of Iron
Ahmadi Drive-In
Arabic Film

PRAYERS

Fajr 3.16 am
Zuhr 11.46
Asr 3.20 pm
Maghreb 6.42
Isha 8.12

KTV 1

MORNING
9.00 Holy Quran
9.10 Sabah Al Khair
9.15 Cartoons
9.45 Magazine D'Actualite
10.00 Yaseen Wa Bahiya:
Arabic serial (Part 17)
10.45 News Summary and
Varieties
11.00 Al Ein: Arabic serial
(Last Part)
12.00 News Summary
12.15 Circus: Foreign Programme
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran and
Closedown
EVENING
4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 The World News via
Satellite
4.45 Sherlock Holmes: Cartoon
serial
5.15 Ma'a Al Talaba: Prepared
by the School
Activity Department at the Ministry of
Education
6.15 Nadam: Historical
serial
7.30 Varieties

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

8.00 Al Iskan Wa El
Muaten: Prepared by
the Public Authority
for Housing
8.30 Masa: Al Khair
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Layali Al Hilmiya:
Daily Arabic serial
(Part 19)
10.45 Wadi Al Ghozlan:
Beduin serial (Last
part) Starring: Mahmood
Saeed, Sabah
Jazari and Adeeb
Qadoora
11.45 News Summary
11.50 The World News via
Satellite
12.15 Holy Quran and
Closedown
KTV 2
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Raccoons: Cartoon
serial
6.30 Mac and Mutley: A
programme for young
viewers, it examines
the techniques for
training dogs and
other animals at
farms.
7.00 Danger Bay: "Hand to
Hand." Jonah is concerned
about a group of
survivalists playing
war games in a bird
sanctuary.
7.30 Body Matters: "Skin
Talk." A look at how
our skin protects us
against the heat and
cold.
8.00 News in English
8.40 You and the Law:
Presented by Ali Noor
8.50 Sonny Spoon: "Too
Smart."
9.40 Bill Cosby show:
"Babysitter." Cliff is
asked to stay behind
and take care of his
grandchild. Comedy.
Starring: Bill Cosby,
Phylicia Rashad.
10.00 Just for the Record: An
Australian show on
record holders, tonight
it looks at captures,
on camera, or
how squirrels ski on
water: a woman who

Burgan Travel achieves great success in time sharing scheme

BURGAN International Travels on the occasion of the visit of RCI Company representative, Simon Morel to Kuwait held a press conference recently. Financial and marketing manager of Burgan International Travels, Osama Sabbah explained the success of the joint co-operation between the two companies in the time-sharing scheme during the conference. Simon praised the great success achieved by Burgan International Travels with the time sharing scheme in Kuwait, which made the company be interested in the Gulf market in general and the Kuwaiti market in particular.

He said that he was deputised by the RCI to follow up the success achieved in Kuwait. He stressed on the great facilities RCI has all over the world to ensure the success on the scheme.

He said that the company owns resorts all over the world and recently acquired special resorts for sports activities and has provided it with necessary grounds. These resorts were carefully selected in healthy areas to help sports teams for training. He added that the company also has children wel-



Simon Morel



Osama Sabbah

fare centres to help families enjoy their tours while their children are safe in these centres. Simon said that RCI has a fully-equipped "Lasanta Sport" resort in the Canaries specially for hosting sports camps and can arrange friendly matches with local first-class teams.

Osamah Sabbah on his part explained the reasons for the success of Burgan International Travels in the time-sharing scheme in Kuwait,

stressing that the scheme saves big expenses for the travellers. He said that it provides subscribers with the opportunity to visit the world at reduced prices. Out of 120 contracts signed by the Burgan International Travels, 106 have already been bought in Kuwait during the past two months only. A computer link between Burgan International Travels and the RCI is planned shortly to ensure further success of the scheme.

Joint venture

HEMPEL of Copenhagen and Tintas Coral S.A., Brazil, announced recently the establishment of a Joint Venture Agreement.

Tintas Coral is one of the largest paint manufacturing companies in Brazil and member of the well-known Bunge-Born Group, which among others has paint factories in several Latin American countries.

The Hempel Group has been operating with a production and sales organisation in Brazil since 1965.

With a view to the anticipated economic growth of the South American market, the two groups have joined forces to achieve a major share within this development.

Marine and protective coatings will be produced and marketed from Rio de Janeiro with sales offices around the country.

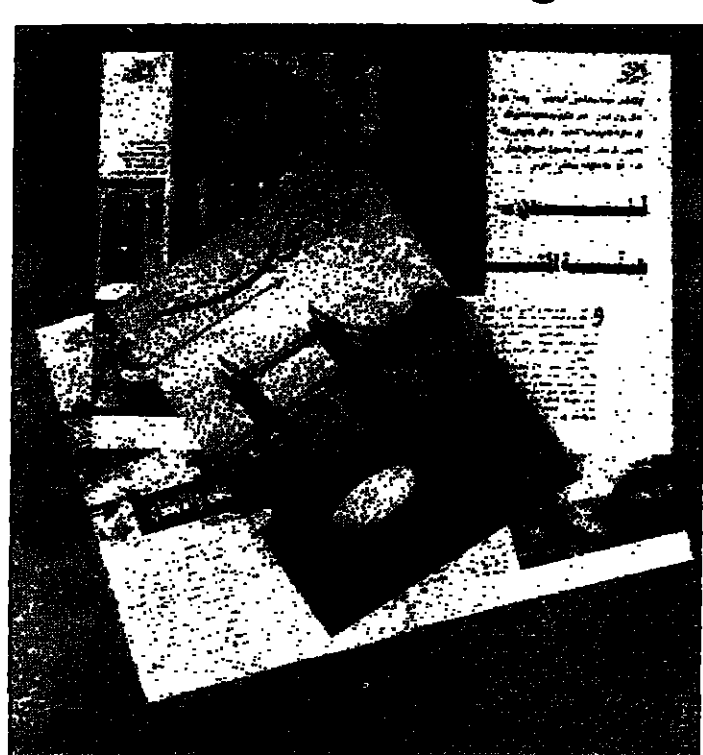
The new joint venture company, Hempel-Coral S.A., will be able to supply both the domestic Brazilian requirements as well as marine and protective coatings for world-wide operating companies.

British Airways launches Arabic magazine

A NEW inflight magazine written especially for British Airways' Arab passengers was launched this week at a reception in London hosted by Robert Falkner, deputy marketing director of British Airways.

The new magazine, called 'Above The Clouds', will initially be published quarterly and will be available to all Arab passengers on British Airways flights to and from the airline's 14 Middle East destinations. 'Above The Clouds' is a vital element in our strategy to support the Middle East markets and provide our Arab passengers with a distinct and special service," says Peter Spencer, British Airways Middle East general manager.

"British Airways' association with the region stretches back sixty years and today we have more flights to more destinations than any other non-Arab airline. We regularly review our on-board service to ensure the needs of all our passengers are being met. The new Arabic inflight magazine is just one outcome of the review of our Arab product. We have already



introduced new meals, menus in Arabic, and Arabic subtitled movies. Regionally-based cabin crew have been recruited and are currently being trained in London. They will become a part of the crew complement on all Middle East sectors.

"We are very pleased to be

able to introduce 'Above The Clouds' as part of our improved on-board service for Arab passengers," says Peter Spencer.

'Above The Clouds' is published by Headway Publications, publishers of British Airways' award winning 'Highlife' and 'Business Life' magazines.

International Tourist Bureau

THE Ministry of Railways government of India have set up an International Tourist Bureau at New Delhi railway station for providing assistance to various tourists and non-resident Indians in booking reservations on Indian railways. Tourists or non-resident Indians having Indian passes can now contact this bureau which operates from 10.00 hours to 17.00 hours everyday, except on Sundays. The railway authorities have installed fax and telex facilities. The numbers are: Fax: 0091-11-343050, Tlx: 31-66468/31-61925.

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A large catering company urgently needs the following staff:

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By Kathy Cuddihy

Pet peeves

IDEALLY, pets add something special to the home environment. In theory, they provide loyal companionship without such inconveniences as monopoly of the bathroom, telephone and family car. Unless an owner is silly enough to have a rude parrot, pets don't usually argue or answer back. What's more, because of their acute hearing — and this is a definite plus — pets don't need electronic equipment turned several decibels above safe levels.

Everyone should have a pet to make their lives a little richer but, to survive, every pet needs an adult. Kids cuddle, but parents end up doing all the dirty work. No, I take that back. Pets do dirty; parents have to be there to clean them up.

Despite their impassioned promises, anyone in his/her right mind knows that kids don't look after pets. It's a fact of life that children's boundless energy miraculously dissipates the minute the dog needs walking. A policy of "whoever sees the mess first cleans it up" only results in severe myopia in children... and unwelcome surprises for mothers and fathers who naively choose to walk in bare feet through formerly safe territory.

With a bit of charitable insight, most parents can

understand why kids actively avoid animal exercise programmes and clean-up duties. After all, these demand fairly intense dedication, especially in wet conditions — and this doesn't only refer to the weather.

Less easy to comprehend is the studied aversion that children have towards feeding their pets. Even this chore is left to parents in general and mothers in particular.

Feeding pets wouldn't be especially troublesome if it only required the opening of tins, bags or boxes. No doubt a lot of readers are musing, "Well, of course that's all that's required. What does this woman think she has to do? Serve up a three-course meal?" Believe me, in our house that doesn't seem to be too far-fetched. For some reason or another, fate continually deals us pets who are picky eaters.

I mean, how many people have had hamsters who go on hunger strike until they have their 1/4 ounce of freshly squeezed orange juice in the morning? Or birds that will only eat neatly rolled balls of dry dog food, pounded and mixed with warm milk?

Needless to say, the dog has never been excited about plain old dog food. I could accept it if he liked bird seed, but his sophisticated palate prefers gourmet snacks of succulent meat topped with home-made gravies. We've never had much difficulty feeding fish; they eat each other. As for the desert cat we fostered, you'd think she wouldn't have to do her own hunting. No such luck, though. She deigns to eat commercial cat food, but only if it is acceptably flavoured and extremely fresh. In other words, anything that has been open for more than 24 hours falls into the category of "left-over." In our cat's vocabulary, that's a four-letter word.

With such a wealth of experience, you can imagine my reaction when a friend recently offered to present my son with a falcon. My son, needless to say, was beside himself with enthusiasm... and rash promises.

"Please, Mom," he begged, "You won't have to do a thing, I swear."

"I'm sure you do, but that's not the issue under discussion. If I've heard

that you won't have to do a thing line once, I've heard it a dozen times. I refuse to fall for it again."

The well-meaning friend tried to intervene but I held my ground.

"Don't try to tell me that falcons are no trouble. I happen to know they need freshly killed food. I'll walk dogs, housebreak cats, clean fish bowls and bird cages, but I definitely draw the line at strangling mice and quails a couple of times a day just so a bird can eat a warm meal."

After such a near miss, I laid down a new rule: any potential incoming pets have to be warm, snuggly and furry. This soundly eliminates anything with feathers or scales.

"In that case," volunteered our generous friend, "let me give you a Saluki pup."

"You are too kind, but I must refuse. Apart from the fact I would need to get a racing bike in order to keep pace with his exercise needs, the Saluki does not fulfill my final requirement: I have to be able to wear it."

In the wake of such restrictions, my family has been smart enough not to introduce any new, maintenance-intensive, creatures into the house. On the other hand, no one seems to have got the full message. I'm still waiting for my very own ranch mink or Russian sable "pet"...

Frederick Forsyth back on the best-seller lists

One-man thriller factory

By Adam Sweeting

LITERARY pretensions are things Frederick Forsyth can afford to live without, though he protests that he isn't as wealthy as people make out. "The figures mentioned — was it £25 million? — are absolutely farcical. It would be much smarter to knock a nought off. Probably between two and three million. Which is comfortable and nice but it's nothing like the Pearsons or the Cowdrays or James Goldsmith or anything like that. That's very rich indeed."

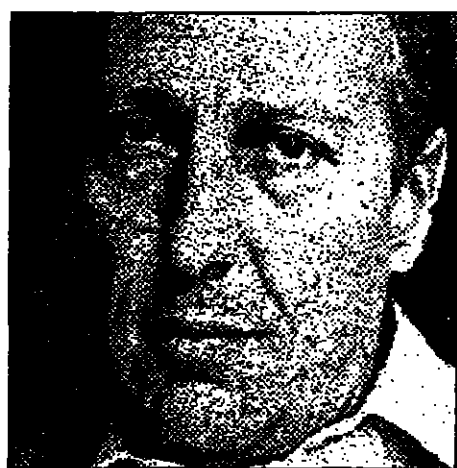
Forsyth owns just one Jaguar, four suits, and a sheep farm in the Home Counties (he's selling his apartment in Marbella). He uses an electric typewriter and refuses to buy a word-processor. He speaks in the clipped sentences and rather plummy tones of the officer class, and no doubt sees life much as they do.

The latest product from this well-drilled operator is *The Negotiator*, a saga of covert skull-duggery, lust for power, and guns. It is distinguishable from its airport bookstore rivals chiefly by the amount of detail Forsyth has managed to cram into it, about everything from phone-tapping to the geography of Corsica.

Ever since he began setting records in this genre with *The Day of the Jackal*, published in 1971, Forsyth has seen himself as a man with a job rather than a mission. He's not an artist, but he gets this done. "I don't think thriller novels really have an effect on people," he muses, slotting another cigarette, in Fleming style, into a holder. "They're entertainment."

He'll admit that motivation can be hard to come by nowadays. He's already "retired" once, after his third bestseller, *The Dogs of War*, 10 years ago. Every now and again, Forsyth tears himself away from domestic equilibrium and turns himself into a thriller factory. It is at times like these that his wife, Carrie, is said to find Freddie unbearable.

He employs a researcher, but he does as



Novelist Frederick Forsyth hasn't read *Spycatcher*

much leg-work as possible himself. Plotting and research he finds pretty easy. Writing, on the other hand, is just the bit you have to do to get your material into book form. Freddie regards people who enjoy writing rather like victims of some unspeakable hereditary illness.

"Let's face it, it's a slog," the author laments. "It's hitting typewriter keys for six or seven hours a day for 45-50 days. There are people apparently who are compulsive writers and are never happier than when they're at the typewriter, but I'm not in that category. A 1,000-word article is one thing. 140,000 words is a lot."

Strangely for a man whose name is synonymous with attention to detail, his early years as a news reporter suggest that Forsyth could become a trifle excitable.

After a stint at the Eastern Daily Press in Norwich, Freddie joined Reuters in London in 1961, and by 1963 he was their man in East Germany.

One night, he stumbled across vast columns of Russian tanks and missiles clattering

through the streets of East Berlin, and transmitted a panicky invasion alert back to London. Before you could say Dostoevsky, Prime Minister Alec Douglas-Home and President Johnson were in emergency conference, and NATO was on red alert. Then somebody twigged that the military movements were in fact a rehearsal for the annual May Day Parade.

Moment

Forsyth's big moment came with the Biafran war of 1967, which he was sent to cover as the BBC's assistant diplomatic correspondent. He became friendly with the Biafran leader, Colonel Ojukwu, and found that his reporting on the war was upsetting an assortment of top people. Sir David Hunt, the British high commissioner in Lagos, called his reporting "hopelessly biased."

The BBC observed that Freddie's bulletins were "sometimes hysterical, often unreliable."

Forsyth promptly quit the BBC, accepted Ojukwu's offer to return to Biafra, and spent another two years in the thick of fighting. The upshot was a successful Penguin special called *The Biafra Story*.

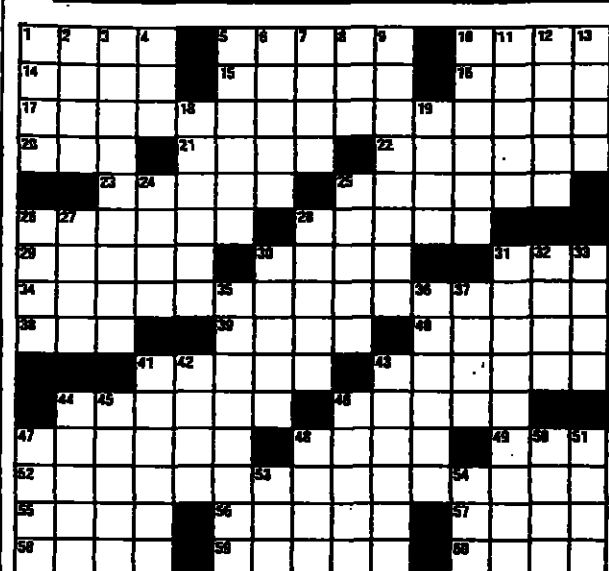
"I was one of the few white faces around the place, in the early days," he remembers. "Later, the press came in a steadily increasing crescendo, television, radio, papers, America, Britain, then Western Europe and Scandinavia — it was almost coach parties coming, package tours. I was the resident guru."

Forsyth nearly got blown up a couple of times, but it all made matchless raw material for his novels. Mercenaries and arms dealers have become Forsyth staples, and reappear in *The Negotiator*.

It's part of Forsyth's mystique. He's the man who somehow knows more than the rest, who appears to have privileged access to security information or criminal know-how. And he hasn't even read *Spycatcher*.

● *The Negotiator* is published by Bantam Press at £12.95.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Church recess
 - From whence Columbus sailed
 - Expectant
 - Partner of kicking
 - Finished
 - Italian playwright
 - In need of nursing
 - Ball park item
 - Like a desert spot
 - Oust
 - Resolute
 - Diluted
 - Picking substance
 - Soviet range
 - Smell
 - Bern's stream
 - Italian painter
 - Islets
 - Edith or Maurice
 - Stable sound
 - "The Rose of"
 - Darwin's ship
 - University of Maine locale
 - Straw hat
 - Buck heroine
 - Needlefish
 - Italian
 - conductor
 - Lager
 - Female water buffalo
 - Crooked
 - Irish river
 - Campus figures
 - On the briny
 - Teenager's woe
 - Olivia Stevens
 - Traveler's choice
 - "Two Gentlemen of"
 - Planist
 - David
 - Mother
 - The Ohe, in Germany
 - Hints
 - Can pest
 - Off the plate
 - Funny
 - Ole
 - Memorable
 - Ruth
 - Lady
 - Chaplin
 - Actress
 - Meara
 - Gam or Tushingham
 - Uno plus due
 - Former org. for Dr. J.
- DOWN**
- "I want for Christmas..."
 - Muni or Simon
 - Some heels
 - Brain wave reading, for short
 - Vatican office
 - Inclined, as a ship
 - Mill money
 - Omelet base, for Brutus
 - Madrid miss
 - "Fidoles"
 - Realty sign
 - Dental work
 - Hard worker
 - Spain's peninsula
 - Hammett's "The — Curse"
 - Kerr or Harsholt
 - Former srs.
 - Paper or board lead-in
 - Sheltered
 - Soup
 - Italian river
 - Similarities

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

DOWN THE PRIMROSE PATH

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 10 7 2

♥ 8 5 3

♦ Q 10 9

♣ K Q 2

WEST

♠ Q 8 4 3

♥ 10

♦ J 8 6 5 2

♣ A 7

EAST

♠ 9 6 5

♥ 7 6 4

♦ A 7 4

♣ J 9 8 5

SOUTH

♠ A K

♥ A Q J 9 2

♦ K 3

♣ 10 6 4 3

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 2 ♥ Pass

4 ♥ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♠

There are times when, left to his

own devices, declarer will have no

chance to go wrong. In such cases,

the Holy Grail for the defenders is

to present him with a losing option.

Note South's two-club rebid. De-

spite the anemic quality of his suit

and the fact that he had enough

overall strength for a jump bid in

hearts, he lacked a sixth heart, so

this was a temporizing bid. When he

received a heart preference, he rash-

ly went directly to game—a try of

three hearts would have been more

prudent.

West led a diamond to East's ace

as declarer unblocked the king. The

spade shift was taken in the closed

position.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

LIEDA ASSET SCAT

OTIC STADE TOLIE

NONWITAXES EMIR

INTRO GENTLEMAN

BOSN AERI

RAF STAMPED TVA

ELAN ETIO GAMER

COMPETITIVENESS

THIRD ORNO INTO

IAL NANETTE TAN

YEAS BEAM

SOFTSHELL SADDIE

ALAW CREATEJOBS

LIRE AMEND ODIN

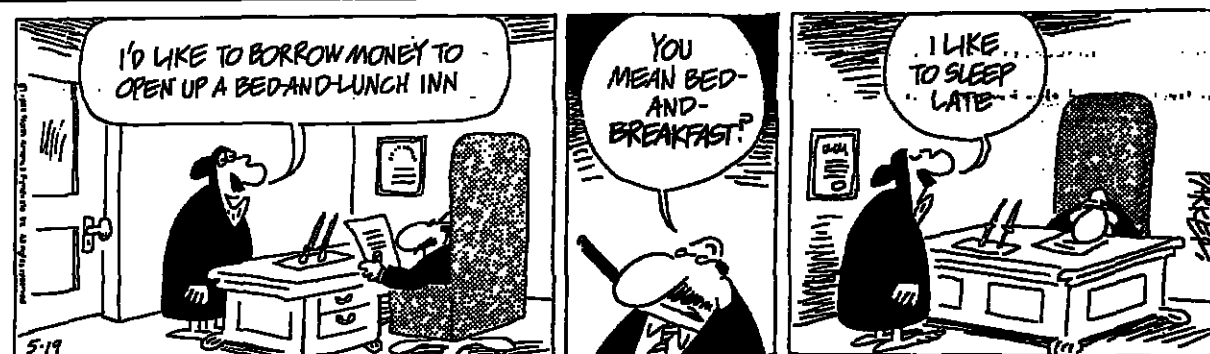
TOME MARKS ROISE



"Then she ran off with my best friend. I loved that dog!"

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

The Moon's better influence will help you to do the right thing in the circumstances. Do not permit your mind and attention to wander. Make sure you are making the best use of your resources. Be thankful.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

If you show a little more goodwill you will also have a greater chance of success. You should not do more than one thing at a time. Your sense of direction is worse than usual, so do not rely too much upon it just now. Be patient.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Things are a little more complicated than they seem, so take care. You will have something to be pleased about and should be grateful. A temptation to trust to luck should be resisted. Be moderate.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will not be quite sure of yourself at first but you will soon regain your confidence. You should not allow yourself to be intimidated, but nor should you underestimate the difficulties. Keep your wits very much about you. Be fair-minded.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You should keep calm even when dealing with someone irascible and slightly aggressive. You will be better able to make your persuasive powers prevail. You should have a good laugh at yourself too. Be sensible.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will have more to do but you will also have more energy to help you to do it. Avoid getting into an argument about a subject on which you feel strongly. Do not repress your emotions, but do not let rule the roost either. Be respectful.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You should make sure you do not leave more to chance than you need. You have the wind in your sails but you must steer firmly too. Your lucky numbers are 4 and 51. There is not time to lose. Be generous.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

This is going to be a busy day for you and you will have no time to spare. You should keep an open mind and be prepared to make a few changes. You are more liable to lose your way and should not hesitate to use a map. Be considerate.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will have plenty of energy but if you are not careful it will be misdirected. You will have something to be pleased about. Be tolerant.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You would be well advised to use a little more common sense. Do not dwell too much on the past. You should concentrate on essentials leaving secondary matters for later. Be tactful.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You should have another look at your situation before you make any final decisions. You will find it easier to understand something that has been mystifying you. You still have a lot to learn and should not be intimidated by it. Be kind.

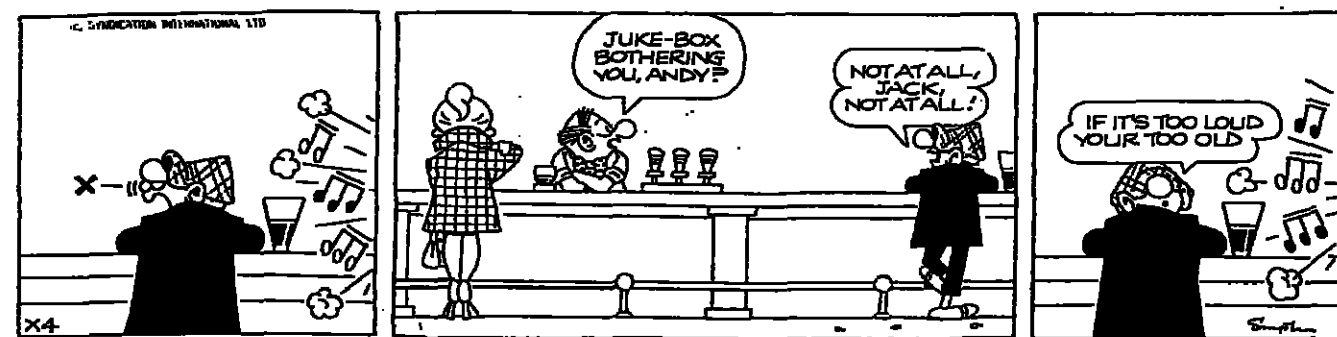


Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will have better success in balancing your budget but only if you continue to be frugal. Avoid relying on luck although you may well have some. You are more liable to lose things, so take great care. Be a little more cautious.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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Four nations confirm places in Indian tourney

CALCUTTA, New Delhi, May 30. (Reuters) Four nations including India, have confirmed their participation in India's Nehru one-day cricket tournament in the autumn, Indian organiser Jagmohan Dalmiya said today.

He said Pakistan, England and Sri Lanka have confirmed while Australia will decide early next month. The West Indies

are trying to rearrange a November 6 match against the rest of the world to allow them to take part.

The tournament, which marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, begins on October 26 with the final in Calcutta's Eden Park on November 12.

Dalmiya said the 50-overs-a-side tournament probably would be played at 12 locations around India but the venues have yet to be fixed.

Two groups will play round-robin matches with the top sides in each group vying for the \$40,000 main prize. The runners-up will get \$25,000.

Broad slams second ton

Notts player hands out reminder to selectors

LONDON, May 30. (Reuters) Chris Broad, ignored by England for the one-day series against Australia, handed out a timely reminder to the selectors by scoring his second century of the match for Nottinghamshire yesterday.

He followed his first innings' 32 with an unbeaten 103 as Notts reached 203 for two in their second innings, a lead of 253 over Glamorgan at the close of the second day of their three-day county match at Cardiff.

Broad reached his century in 159 balls, hitting 12 fours, and shared second-wicket stand of 147 with Paul Johnson who made 87.

Glamorgan had earlier declared their first innings at 250 for two with Alan Butcher making an unbeaten 107, his first century of the season.

South African pace bowler Allan Donald helped blast out Middlesex for 199 with a championship best of seven for 65 at Edgbaston only to see his teammates fail to capitalise on his hard work.

Warwickshire capitulated to the Middlesex pace attack of Angus Fraser and Simon Hughes and were all out in their second innings for 112, leaving Middlesex needing only 108 to win.

Fraser finished with five for 20 and Hughes four for 23. By the close Middlesex were 20 for the loss of their West Indies opener Desmond Haynes.

Yorkshire's former England

opener Martyn Moxon, playing only his third game of the season following injury, defied Surrey's bid to force the follow-on with a superb 162 not out at the Oval.

Yorkshire were struggling at 111 for six in reply to Surrey's 400 for six declared at one stage but Moxon and captain Phil Carrick, who made 51, added 105 for the seventh wicket and Yorkshire were finally able to declare at 303

for eight. South African opener Jimmy Cook hit 147 not out and Richard Harden an unbeaten 101 as Somerset reached 280 for three before declaring 47 behind on the first innings against Essex at Chelmsford.

It was Cook's second successive championship century and took his aggregate to 697 from only seven completed innings in

his first season in county cricket.

SCORES

At Chelmsford: Essex 327 for eight declared in 119 overs and five for no wicket. Somerset 280 for three declared in 108.5 overs (S. Cook 147 not out, R. Harden 101 not out).

At the Oval: Surrey 400 for six declared (K. Medlicott 71, G. Thorpe 64 not out). Yorkshire 303 for eight declared in 95.5 overs (M. Moxon 162 not out, P. Carrick 51).

At Bourne: Hampshire 288 in 103.2 overs and 49 for no wicket. Leicestershire 293 in 98.3 overs (P. Willey 52, N. Briers 49, J. Whitaker 48, L. Potter 41, T. Tremlett four for 67).

At Cardiff: Nottinghamshire 300 for six declared in 97.5 overs and 203 for two (C. Broad 103 not out, P. Johnson 87). Glamorgan 250 for two declared in 67 overs (A. Butcher 107 not out, Ravi Shastri 54 not out, M. Maynard 49).

At Liverpool: Sussex 334 for seven declared and 54 for two. Lancashire 204 in 72.3 overs (T. Jesty 48, A. Babington five for 37).

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire 194 in 94.4 overs and 112 (A. Fraser five for 20, S. Hughes four for 23). Middlesex 199 in 59.5 overs (R. Butler 58, A. Donald seven for 66) and 20 for one.

At Bristol: Worcestershire 201 in 70.5 overs and 231 for four (T. Curtis 102, G. Hick 53). Gloucestershire 148 in 62.5 overs (N. Radford five for 57).



Broad: hammered an unbeaten 103



One-day cricket international

England bowler Derek Pringle (right) and Australian batsman Dean Jones tumble after crashing into each other during the third and final Texaco Trophy one-day cricket international at Lords on Monday. Australia won the match by six wickets. (Reuters wirephoto).

Top baseball player announces retirement

SAN DIEGO, Calif., May 30. (Reuters) Mike Schmidt, one of the greatest power-hitting third basemen in the history of baseball, announced his retirement from the Philadelphia Phillies in a hastily called press conference yesterday.

Schmidt, whose 548 career home runs made him number seven on the all-time list, called it quits two months into his 18th Major League season — all spent with the Phillies.

"My skills have deteriorated," he told reporters before Philadelphia's game against the San Diego Padres. "I feel I could have asked the Phillies to keep me on as a part-time player. My respect for the game, my team-mates and the fans won't allow me to do that."

Schmidt, who missed the last two months of the 1988 season due to a shoulder injury, was batting just .203 this year although he had stroked six homers and driven in 28 runs.

Schmidt won Most Valuable Player honours three times in the National League, the first award coming in 1980 when he led the circuit with 48 homers and 121 runs batted in and helped the Phils to a World Series championship.

Eight times Schmidt led the League in homers but he as far from being a one-dimensional player. The right-handed hitting slugger also won 10 Gold Glove awards as the League's best fielding third baseman. He appeared in 11 all-star games.

Schmidt, who was also troubled by knee ailments throughout his career, did not blame his decline on any specific injury, "just the wear and tear of time."

"Some 18 years ago I left Dayton, Ohio, with two bad knees and a dream to become a Major League baseball player," Schmidt said, his eyes moist.

"I thank God for letting my dream come true," he said before breaking into tears.

Fittipaldi enjoys limelight

INDIANAPOLIS, May 30. (AP) Emerson Fittipaldi planted a kiss on A.J. Foyt's forehead. Or was that Al Unser?

The crowd laughed as the winner of Sunday's Indianapolis 500 leaned across the car that carried him to the biggest victory of his life and kissed the Borg-Warner Trophy, a monstrous silver cup covered with faces of winners since 1911.

Fittipaldi, nicknamed Emmo, was enjoying the attention at the traditional day-after photo session for the Indy winner. It was a leisurely moment, particularly when compared to the grind of the day before.

He drove a very fast car Sunday, leading 158 of 200 laps and setting a race single-lap record of 222.469 mph (357.9 kph) — an incredible jump from the previous fast race lap of 209.154 (336.5 kph) by Rick Mears in 1988.

Al Unser Jr., who finished second despite crashing after bumping wheels with Fittipaldi just three miles from the end, and Michael Andretti, whose engine failed while he led in the final 100 miles (160 kilometers), were also over 220 (354 kph) at times. They were the only real challengers.

"I was very surprised by the speeds," Fittipaldi said. "We talked before the race and thought the top speeds would be maybe 215 (345). But the conditions were just right — a cool track, the new surface and good cars."

Still, the speed surprised even his crew.



Fittipaldi kisses the Borg-Warner Trophy. (Reuters wirephoto)

Longbottom wins 1st stage of Milk Race

BOURNEMOUTH, England, May 30. (AP) Peter Longbottom of Britain, the oldest rider in the Milk Race, won yesterday's first stage of the 13-day bicycle race around England and Wales by edging Czeslaw Rajch of Poland in a final sprint.

Longbottom, Rajch and a large pack of other racers all finished the 121.5-mile stage from London to Bournemouth in 4 hours, 41 minutes, 22 seconds.

"I know this finish well, so I just hoped that one day I would get it right," said Longbottom, a 30-year-old British amateur rider.

Jon Walshaw of Britain, who won Sunday's prologue, as in the pack that finished with Longbottom and retained the overall leader's yellow jersey.

About 20 riders made a break-away after 94 miles, led by American Scott McKinley. But they were caught by the 100-rider field with five miles left in the stage.

"My memory (about the finish) failed me at the wrong time," said McKinley, 20. "I was looking good for awhile but then we were caught."

The second stage today was to be a 121-mile run from Bournemouth to Bristol.

Cramme defeats West German

PIRAEUS, Greece, May 30. (AP) Swedish Olympic silver medalist George Cramme yesterday outpointed West Germany's Jorg Kastner in the opening bouts of the 28th European Senior Amateur Boxing Championships.

Cramme, fighting in the 60-kilogramme category, outpointed Kastner 5-0 to take his first victory in more than eight months. The Swedish boxer had been forced to stay away from the ring because of an injury.

"I was very satisfied with myself and hope to do well here," the Swede said after his victory.

The two fighters are among 165 athletes from 26 countries taking part in the championships, being held in this Athens port city's Peace and Friendship stadium.

Nick Faldo improves his putting

WENTWORTH, May 30. (Reuters) Nick Faldo resolved his putting problems with his usual efficiency to make a successful 1989 European tournament debut at the British PGA championship.

Faldo has been unable to reproduce his best putting form since his superb performance on the greens of Augusta National swept him to the US Masters title.

But at Wentworth he rediscovered his aim as he range to record a two-shot victory yesterday which, fashioned from four sub-70 rounds of 61, 69, 69 and 67, held off the challenge of defending champion Wootton and put young Australian pretender Craig Parry firmly in his place.

"The last three weeks in America I played very well from tee to green and if I'd been able to get the ball in the hole a few more times, it would have been much better," he said.

"But I know I've been striking the ball well and every day I've done a little more work on my putting. I did putt well this week, solid all the way through."

Faldo is again using the putter he switched to before his victorious final round at Augusta, after experimenting with another model in practice and occasionally in other events.

He will undoubtedly continue with it at the British Masters at Woburn beginning on Thursday when, as he did at Augusta, he will be out to relieve compatriot Sandy Lyle of the title.

"The majors are these for me and anything else is a bonus," said Faldo, who also won the 1987 British Open.

"When you've won a major, you can just relax and go. You don't worry so much about the bogeys. You just keep playing hard."

"I've been playing as hard as I can this week. I set myself a target with every shot. I'll do it concentrate, if I play sleepy, I call it. I hit sloppy shots."

"So I set myself targets to make myself keep playing good shots."

Faldo's win here consolidated his hold on third spot in the world rankings while moving him closer to Australian Greg Norman in second place. World number one Seve Ballesteros was among those he beat here.

"There are about six players in the world who, on a given day, can beat all the other," Faldo said. "I don't feel there's one player striding above the others."

Already Faldo is looking forward to the US Open at Oak Hills, Rochester, New York, in three weeks, when he will try to add the second leg of the Grand Slam of major tournaments.

Indians overcome Blue Jays

Yankees outlast Mariners

NEW YORK, May 30. (AP) Richard Dotson's first victory over Seattle in five years was no problem at all.

"Your frame of mind's a lot better when you're going out after you got a lot of runs early," Dotson said after the New York Yankees took a 5-0 lead through four innings yesterday and beat the Mariners 6-3 to end a three-game losing streak.

In other games yesterday, Cleveland defeated Toronto 5-3; Detroit beat the Chicago White Sox 4-2; California routed Milwaukee 12-3; Baltimore whipped Texas 6-1; Boston edged Oakland 3-2; and Kansas City trounced Minnesota 7-1.

Dotson had been 0-6 in seven starts against the Mariners since beating them June 18, 1984, while with Chicago.

"Two out of the last three years, everybody's been hitting me hard," he said. "I don't know if it's Seattle in particular."

Dotson, 2-2, allowed nine hits and three runs in 6 2-3 innings, his second-longest outing this season. Dave Righetti, the third Yankee pitcher, replaced Lance McCullers after Harold Reynolds' leadoff single in the ninth and earned his eighth save.

Dennis Powell, 1-2, started for Seattle after Erik Hanson woke up with a stiff right shoulder.

New York scored two runs in the first, another two in the fourth and one in the fifth.

Indians 5, Blue Jays 3

Jerry Browne had three hits

and two RBIs, and Joe Carter also drove in two runs to lead Cleveland.

Tigers 4, White Sox 2

Doyle Alexander allowed three hits in seven innings to snap a personal four-game losing streak and Matt Nokes hit a Grand Slam as Detroit beat Chicago 4-2, sending the White Sox to their seventh straight loss at home.

Angels 12, Brewers 3

Claudell Washington's two-run single capped a five-run third inning and Lance Parrish went 4-for-4 to lead California's season-high 18-hit attack.

Orioles 6, Rangers 1

Mickey Tettleton, Larry Sheets and Cal Ripken hit solo home runs off Nolan Ryan as Baltimore defeated Texas.

Red Sox 3, Athletics 2

Mary Barrett celebrated the signing of a new contract by singling home the game-winning run in the bottom of the 10th inning as Boston beat Oakland.

Royals 7, Twins 1

Bo Jackson doubled and tripled and Kansas City battered Minnesota's Frank Viola for seven runs in five innings.

Padres 1, Phillies 0

Bruce Hurst and Mark Davis combined on a four-hitter as the San Diego Padres beat Philadelphia 1-0 last night.

In other games yesterday, Montreal edged Los Angeles 3-2; San Francisco defeated the New York Mets 3-2; Houston beat St. Louis 3-2; Atlanta held off the Chicago Cubs 2-1; and Pitts-

burgh routed Cincinnati 12-3.

Mike Schmidt, who finished his career with 548 home runs, made an emotional farewell and told his team-mates to start a new Phillies era.

But Hurst made that hard to do.

The Padres left-hander allowed four hits and struck out six in 8 2-3 innings to improve to 5-3 while sending the Phillies to their sixth straight loss.

Ricky Jordan singled and Von Hayes walked with two outs in the ninth and Mark Davis came on to retire Chris James on a grounder to third for his 16th save in as many opportunities.

Tony Gwynn's RBI single in the first scored Roberto Alomar with the game's only run.

Expos 3, Dodgers 2

Andres Galaraga's run-scoring single snapped a ninth-inning tie to lift Montreal past Los Angeles.

Giants 3, Mets 2

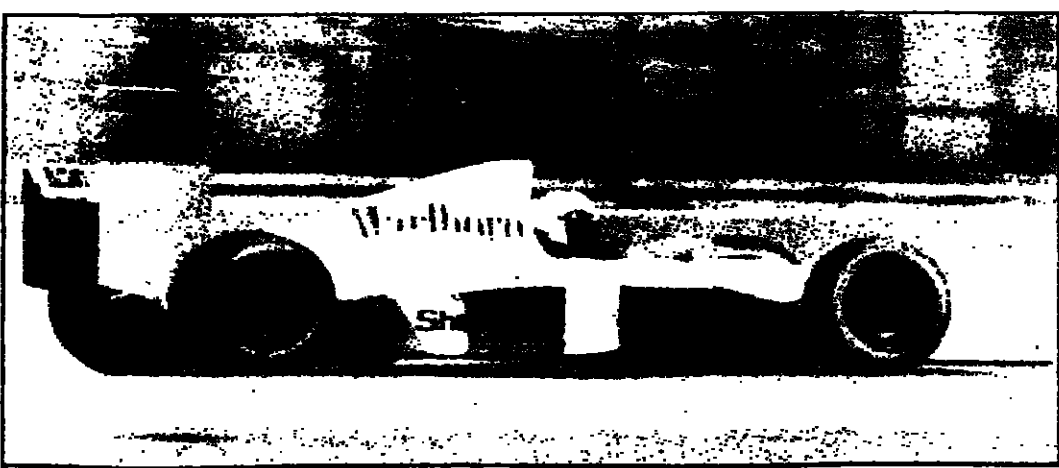
Brett Butler drove in two runs with sacrifice flies and scored another on Will Clark's double as San Francisco beat New York for its fourth straight victory.

Astros 3, Cardinals 2

Bob Knepper allowed two runs in 7 1-3 innings and Craig Biggio had a two-run double as Houston edged St. Louis for its fourth straight victory. It was also the Astros' eighth straight victory, equalling the club record set in 1971. Houston is 15-7 on the road.

Prost faces test of credibility after Mexican GP

Former champion lacks aggression



Prost: in action during the Mexican Grand Prix

hard tyres on the left, but we made a mistake and fitted only one on the front.

"This meant he had to stop again...also, our pit stops were not particularly good and I must say I am rather disappointed with the team's performances."

Such strong words are rare from Dennis who like his team, has grown accustomed to little

else but triumph.

In the past, it would have been unthinkable for Prost to be out-thought and out-prepared, as well as out-driven, by his team-mate in three successive races, but exactly this has happened at the San Marino, Monaco and Mexican Grands Prix.

Senna, who won his third race in succession and the 17th of his

career to move seven points clear of Prost in the championship, has now added considerable experience to his undoubted natural talent and works with an intensity once associated with Prost, the "professor" of Grand Prix racing.

"My car ran well," he said with typically sincere understatement after Sunday's win. "The engine

and the tyres were fine too. My choice of tyres was fundamental to success in the race and naturally I am very happy about it."

Between them Senna and Prost, once dubbed "The Dream Team," have won 52 races — the same total as the rest of the current Formula One field put together.

Prost has won a record 35, but is still searching for his first triumph of the 1989 season and has admitted he is considering his future.

Amid rumours that he is considering retirement, he went out of his way last Friday to say he would make an announcement in two weeks' time after returning from the US Grand Prix in Phoenix.

That race, around the streets of the sun-baked Arizona city on a circuit being used for racing for the first time, will be a test of everyone's temperament and commitment.

For Prost, it may be a test of his enthusiasm for a future in Grand Prix racing.

Thomas scores 27 points

Pistons tame Bulls

CHICAGO, May 30. (AP) Isiah Thomas scored 27 points yesterday, leading the Detroit Pistons to an 86-80 victory over Chicago that tied the Eastern Conference finals at two games apiece.

With the victory, the Pistons regained the homecourt advantage they lost last week when the Bulls won the series opener at Auburn Hills, Michigan, where the Pistons are 42-5 this season.

Two of the three remaining games are scheduled for the Pistons' homecourt at the Palace, with the winner of the series facing the two-time defending champion Los Angeles Lakers in the National Basketball Association finals.

The Lakers are undefeated in 11 playoff games this season. Thomas, who now has 60 points in Detroit's two victories and 14 in the two defeats, hit last-second baskets at the end of the second and third periods to give the Pistons narrow leads.

Joe Dumars added 15 points and helped limit Michael Jordan, averaging 37 points in the playoffs, to 23, only 11 of them after the first quarter.

Backup forward Dennis Rodman helped the Pistons control the boards with 18 rebounds, while reserve centre James Edwards added 13 points.

Scottie Pippen had 18 points for the Bulls.

The Pistons led 44-39 in the first minute of the second half before Pippen scored nine points in a span of 2:14, keying a 16-6 run that put Chicago ahead 55-50.

Edwards then scored six points in 2:16, leading a 14-5 spurt that gave the lead back to Detroit. Thomas' buzzer-beating jumper made it 64-60 after three quarters.

The closest the Bulls got in the fourth quarter was 64-62 before Thomas started a 15-7 run with a jumper. Another jumper by Thomas made it 79-69 with 4:38 left, and the Bulls got no closer than five after that.

Detroit missed 12 of its first 17 field-goal attempts and Jordan scored nine points as Chicago opened a 23-16 lead with 4:35 left in the first quarter.

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